

MACDONALDS OF CLANRANALD

Alexander Mackenzie



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THE
MACDONALDS

OF

†

CLANRANALD.

BY

ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, F.S.A., SCOT.,

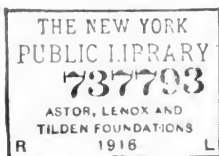
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The pages to which reference is made in the text are those of the complete "History of the Macdonalds and Lords of the Isles," by the same Author.

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THE MACDONALDS OF CLANRANALD.

THIS family, the modern representatives of which claim to be chiefs of the whole Clandonald, was in many respects the most distinguished of the race. It produced warriors seldom equalled, and never surpassed even in the Highlands. We have already expressed our opinion as to the family claim to the chiefship, and gave some of the reasons which has driven us to the conclusion that the claim is not well founded. Skene, than whom there is no better authority, maintains that Donald, the ancestor of Glengarry, was the eldest son of Reginald of the Isles, and that Allan, the progenitor of Clanranald, must have been the second son. "The seniority of Donald," he says, "is distinctly proved by the fact that on the extinction of the family of Moror (descended from a younger son), the family of Moydart succeeded legally to that property; consequently, by the law of Scotland, they must have been descended from a younger son than the family of Knoydart and Glengarry, and it follows of necessity that the latter family must have been that of the Chief."* That the family of Clanranald is descended from

VIII. REGINALD,

Or Ranald, eighth in descent from Somerled of the Isles and Thane of Argyll, is admitted on all hands, and the only question is, Whether Allan, the immediate progenitor

* For Skene's remarks *in extenso* on this point see pp. 291-298.

of Clanranald, was the first or the second son? His descendants now stoutly maintain that he was the first, and that consequently his immediate successors were chiefs of the whole Clandonald. This the reader must be left to judge for himself. Reginald was undoubtedly succeeded in a large portion of his extensive domains by

IX. ALLAN MACDONALD OR MACRANALD,

Second of Moydart, and other wide territories in the West Highlands and Isles, now impossible to define, as a considerable portion of his father's possessions went to the other sons. Allan fought at the famous battle of Harlaw in 1411, where he greatly distinguished himself, with his brothers, Donald, first of Glengarry, and Dugald, the latter of whom was slain.

Allan, according to the history of Clanranald,* married "a daughter of John, last Lord of Lorn, and brother of Dugald, Lord of Appin," by whom he had issue—

1. Roderick, his heir.

2. Allan, from whom the Sliochd Alain Mhic Alain of Knoydart, whose lands returned to Glengarry in 1613, and of whose representatives nothing is known.

3. John, issue extinct.

He died at Castletirrim in 1419, a few months after his father, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

X. RODERICK MACDONALD,

Third of Moydart, much better known among his Highlander countrymen as "Ruari Mac Alain". He was a man of great courage, and, very early in life, became distinguished for his valour and daring. He supported the Earl of Ross in all his contentions with the crown;

* Edinburgh 1819.

joined him in 1492, in his expedition against Inverness, when, according to the MS. History of the Mackintoshes, after the king set him at liberty, "he collected a band of men accustomed to live by rapine, fell upon Inverness, pillaged and burnt the houses". Roderick, in 1431, fought against the king's troops in Lochaber under Donald Balloch, on which occasion the Earl of Mar, commanding the Royal army, was wounded, while Allan, Earl of Caithness, was slain, and many of their followers put to the sword. The king's army was completely defeated and overthrown.* In 1455, Roderick joined in a Macdonald raid to Sutherland, when the party was defeated at Skibo by Neil Murray, and fled back into Ross. They soon, however, returned, and were met by the Sutherland men, commanded by Robert, brother of the Earl of Sutherland, on the sands of Strathfleet, "when ther followed a sharp and cruell skirmish, foughtin with great courage on either syd. In the end, Mackdonald his men were overthrown, and most pairt of them killed, either in the conflict or in the chasse, which continued long, even to the Bonagh."† Referring to this raid, the author of the "History of Clanranald" says, that "A severe engagement followed; the Macdonalds were ultimately defeated; but Roderick succeeded in saving most of his men, with whom he returned to Castletirrim."

He married Margaret, daughter of the famous Donald Balloch of Isla, Chief of Clann Ian Mhoir, with issue—

1. Allan, his heir.
2. Hector, or Eachainn, who obtained lands in Morvern, and became progenitor of the branch of the Macdonalds known as Clann Eachainn, of whom Neil MacEachainn of Flora Macdonald celebrity, father of Marshal Macdonald, Duke of Tarentum, the famous French general; Alexander R. Macdonald, Ord; his brother, Lachlan Macdonald, now of Skaebost, Isle of Skye; and many others, of whom hereafter.

* For full particulars of this engagement, see pp. 79-86.

† Sir Robert Gordon's Earldom of Sutherland, p. 74.

3. Margaret, who married, as his second wife, Alexander "Ionraic" Mackenzie VI. of Kintail, with issue—Hector Roy Mackenzie, progenitor of the family of Gairloch; and a daughter who married, Allan Macleod, the last of the original proprietors who inherited a portion of Gairloch.

We are informed in the family history that he married, secondly, "More, daughter of William Mackintosh of Mackintosh, by a daughter of the Thane of Calder". In the History of the Mackintoshes and Clan Chattan, by Alexander Mackintosh Shaw, recently published, page 83, we are told that William Mackintosh, who "died at Connage in 1368," had by his first wife, Florence, daughter of the Thane of Calder, "a daughter, married to Ruari Mac Alan Mhic Ranald of Moydart". Considering that, *by his second* wife, this Chief of Mackintosh had five children before his death in 1368, it is scarcely possible that his daughter by the *first* marriage, could have been the *second* wife of Ruari MacAllan of Moydart (whose first wife was a daughter of Donald Balloch of Isla, a man alive in 1475), and whose eldest son, Allan MacRuari, was executed in 1509.

He died about 1481, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XI. ALLAN MACDONALD,

Fourth of Moydart, commonly called "Allan MacRuari". He was one of the principal supporters of Angus, the bastard son of John, last Lord of the Isles, in the battle of the Bloody Bay, between Ardnamurchan and Tobermory, where Angus defeated his father. He also accompanied Alexander of Lochalsh, in 1488, to the Battle of Park, fought with the Mackenzies, and in the invasion of Ross and Cromarty in 1491, on which occasion they collected a great booty, a large share of which went to Clanranald.* For this spoil Alexander Urquhart, Sheriff of Cromarty, obtained restitution against Kilravock, who also joined in

* Gregory, p. 66.

it, by Act of the Lords of Council, in 1492, for himself and his tenants.* Kilravock, however, soon after raised an action before the Privy Council to be relieved of the obligation laid upon him. On the 5th of July, 1494, the Lords of Council continued the summons till the 3rd of August following. On the 19th of May, 1496, there appears in the Acts of the Lords of the Privy Council a continuation of all the summonses in the case until the 3rd of July, except, *inter alia*, the one here referred to; and on the second of March, 1497, a decret is recorded ordaining "that the persons underwritten sall relefe and kepe scaithless, Hucheon the Ross of Kilravick, at the hands of Mr. Alexander Urquhart, Sheriff of Cromartie and of ye guidis underwritten". Among the names set forth are Allan MacRory of Moydart, Ewin Allanesone of Lochiel, and Ronald Allan MacRorysone—Allan's eldest son. In 1496, Maclean of Duart, Macian of Ardnamurchan, Allan MacRory of Moydart, Ewen MacAllansone of Lochiel, and Donald MacAnguson of Keppoch, became pledges and sureties "by ye extension of yair hands," to Archibald, Earl of Argyll, in name and on behalf of the king's highness, that each of them should be harmless and scaithless of others without fraud or guile, under pain of a penalty of five hundred pounds for each of the said persons.† In 1498, steps were taken to suppress a feud which had long existed between the Clanranald of Moydart and the Macdonalds of Sleat about the lands of Garmoran and Uist.

During the disputes between the Earl of Ross and Mackenzie, no one was more zealous in the cause of the Island chief than Allan of Moydart, who made several raids into Kintail, ravaged the country, and carried away large numbers of cattle. After the forfeiture of the Earldom of Ross, Allan's younger brother, supported by a faction of the tenantry, rebelled against his elder brother, and possessed himself for a time of the Moydart estate. John of the Isles unwilling to appear so soon in these broils, or, perhaps,

* History of the Mackenzies, p. 74.

† Acts of the Lords of Council, vii., fo. 39.

favouring the pretensions of the younger brother, refused to give any assistance to Allan, who, however, hit upon a device as bold as it ultimately proved successful. He started for Kinellan, "being ane ile in ane loch," where Alexander (of Kintail) resided at the time, and presented himself personally before his old enemy, who was naturally much surprised to receive a visit from such a quarter, and from one to whom he had never been reconciled. Allan coolly related how he had been oppressed by his own brother and his nearest friends, and how he had been refused aid from those from whom he had a right to expect it. In these circumstances he thought it best to apply to his greatest enemy, who, perhaps, might in return gain as faithful a friend as he had previously been his "diligent adversary". Alexander, on hearing the story, and moved by the manner in which Allan had been oppressed by his immediate relatives, promised to support him ; went in person with a sufficient force to repossess him, and finally accomplished his purpose. The opposing party at once represented to the king that Alexander Mackenzie invaded their territory as a "disturber of the peace, and ane oppressor," whereupon he was cited before His Majesty at Edinburgh, "but here was occasion given to Allan to requite Alexander's generosity, for Alexander having raised armies to assist him without commission, he found in it a transgression of the law, though just upon the matter ; so, to prevent Alexander's prejudice, he presently went to Holyrood House, where the king was, and being of a bold temper, did truly relate how his and Alexander's affairs stood, showing withal that he, as being the occasion of it, was ready to suffer what law would exact rather than expose so generous a friend to any hazard. King James was so taken with their reciprocal heroisms that he not only forgave, but allowed Alexander, and of new confirmed Allan in the lands of Moydart."* It will be noticed that Alexander Mackenzie of Kintail, married Allan's sister, Margaret, as his second wife, but

* History of the Mackenzies, pp. 51-52, quoting the Earl of Cromartie's MS.

whether before or after these civilities between them, we are not able to determine.

In 1501, Allan was, with several others of the Clan, summoned before the Lords of Council to exhibit the rights by which he held his lands. He refused to attend, and on the 10th of December in the same year, a decree was pronounced against him and the others as follows:—The Lords of Council decreets and delivers, that the said Ewen MacEachainn, does wrong in the occupying of the lands of Ardtornish, in the Morvern; Allan Rory's son, and Alexander Allan's son in the occupying of the lands of Moydart, &c.; Allan Ranald's son, Mac Ian's son, in the occupying of the lands of Knoydart, &c.; and therefore ordains them to desist and cease therefrom, to be enjoyed, &c., by the king's highness.

In addition to his other possessions, Allan Mac Ruari claimed the whole of the district of Suinart as tenant under John Cathanach of Isla. He never obtained charters for his lands, though he ultimately became on very good terms with the king, to whose influence in the Highlands he latterly, in a great degree, contributed. His heir, Ranald, was actually in high favour at court, and succeeded, in 1505, in bringing a feud between his family and the Macdonalds of Sleat to a successful issue; for in that year, on the 23rd of August, he obtained a charter from John Macdonald of Sleat for the lands so long in dispute between them.*

He accompanied his father in a raid against Hucheson the Ross of Kilravock, and, his father having been in consequence summoned before the king and council, Ranald the heir had to be given up as a hostage for the father's future good behaviour. While in Edinburgh in this position he was highly esteemed by all who knew him, and it was on that occasion that he got so much into court favour. He is in trouble, however, in 1503, for in the Acts of Parliament for that year appears, under date of

* Reg. Privy Seal, vol. iii., fo. 15.

19th March, a memorandum by which it is declared that he and several others named have been "forfaulted" in their persons and goods. On the 23rd of August, 1505, he received a Precept "Viginto octo mercatis terrarum de Sleit cum castro et fortalicio de Dunskahay, et sexaginta mercatis terrarum in Capite Boreali de Ewest, cum pertinen," which had belonged to John of Sleat. On the 7th of June, 1507, the king addressed a letter to him and Alexander Macleod of Dunvegan, authorising them to let the lands of Lewis and Waternish, which were then under forfeiture—a further proof of the confidence at that time reposed in him by James IV.

Allan Mac Ruari was the dread and terror of all the neighbouring clans. He "had at one time three powerful chiefs as prisoners in his fortification of Castletirrim—Macleod of Macleod, Mackay of Strathnaver, and Mackintosh of Mackintosh. The two first had in all probability quarrelled with him for being in arms against John, Earl of Ross, but the cause of his disagreement with Mackintosh is curious, and strongly descriptive of the manners of the times. Mackintosh had built for himself a castle in an island in Loch Moy (now Moyhall). On the day on which he first took possession of this castle, he summoned all his friends and vassals to partake of a banquet at which an Irish harper (in those days constantly strolling about the country) was present. After carousing for a considerable time, and supporting the ancient hospitality of the country, he rose from the table, and, before retiring to rest, expressed his happiness at being now, for the *first day of his life*, free of the dread of Allan Mac Rory, of whom he *then* considered himself quite independent. The Irish harper, in the course of his peregrinations, went to Castletirrim, and reported the words of Mackintosh. This was sufficient to rouse the spirit of the chief; he immediately summoned his vassals and travelled by night and rested by day, till he came to Lochmoy; he had carried with him several boats made of hides, and easily transported; these he launched under night and stormed the castle. Mackintosh

was seized in bed, conveyed to Castletirrim, and kept in confinement for a year and a day. When he got his liberty, Allan advised him '*never to be free from the fear of Macdonald*,' and gave him one of his vassals, named Macswein or Macqueen, as a guide. This man was possessed of great prowess and personal strength, and Mackintosh prevailed on him to remain with him, and gave him a grant of the lands of Coryburgh, which his posterity at this moment enjoy. Some time after this, Allan required to visit his possessions in the Islands, and sailed from Castletirrim with one vassal only; he was, at the time, on the very worst terms with Maclean, the chief of the clan Maclean, and had been engaged in hostilities with him; he unfortunately observed him approaching with a fleet of ten sail, and seeing no possibility of escape, he ordered his men to stretch him out as a corpse, and directed them to bear down without any concern towards Maclean's squadron. On reaching it, his men communicated the melancholy tidings of the death of their chief, whom, they stated, they were conveying to be interred with his ancestors in Iona, and they were allowed to pass; but before Maclean's return, Allan had overrun a great part of his lands, carried away the most valuable part of his effects to Castletirrim, and laid west the country."*

Allan married, first, Florence, daughter of Donald Macian of Ardnamurchan, with issue—

1. Ranald, his heir, generally known as Ranald Bàn Allanson.

2. Alexander, "Portioner of Muidwort," whose son, John Moydartach, afterwards became Captain of Clanranald. Alexander, according to the History of Clanranald, married a daughter of Farquhar XII. of Mackintosh, described as a "celebrated beauty". In the recently published History of Clan Chattan, p. 169, we are told that a daughter of this Farquhar married "Alastair Mac Allan, captain of Clan-Ranald". Alexander's son, John Moydartach, is,

* History of Clanranald, pp. 82-84.

however, described as a "bastard" in that work throughout, and even in the Clanranald History it is curious to notice that while in all other instances the chiefs are said to have had their sons *by* their wives, in the case of Alexander, it is said, after describing the marriage, that "*He left* three sons and a daughter," of whom John Moydartach is named as one. It is not said that all or any of these were by his wife. This apparently slight but important distinction would probably escape the ordinary reader; but there it is, and it shows that the author had scruples in stating that John Moydartach was by Alexander's lawful wife.

Allan married, secondly, late in life, Isabella, daughter of Thomas, fourth Lord Lovat, with issue—

3. Ranald Gallda, who fought and was overthrown at the Battle of Blarleine by his nephew, John Moydartach, when the latter became *de facto* chief and Captain of the clan.

Allan MacRuari was tried and executed before King James IV. at Blair Athole (where he was also buried) in 1509. This sentence is supposed to have been for the part he took in a raid upon Athole under Donald Dubh, who made such a stout claim for the Lordship of the Isles, already fully described.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XII. RANALD BAN ALLANSON MACDONALD,

Fifth of Moydart, who, as we have seen, took a prominent part in public affairs during the lifetime of his father. He was very popular, and much esteemed by his vassals, and is highly praised by the author of the Red Book of Clanranald, the family historian, for his excellent qualities.

He married "a daughter of Roderick Macleod, surnamed The Black, tutor to the lawful heir of the Lewis,"* with issue, an only son—

1. Dugall, who succeeded him.

* Hugh Macdonald's MS.—Collectanae de Rebus Albanicis.

2. Anne, who married, first, as his second wife, William Dubh Macleod of Harris, Dunvegan, and Glenelg, with issue—an only daughter, who married Rory Mor Mackenzie of Acha-Ghluineachan, and by her became progenitor of the Mackenzies of Fairburn and Achilty. She married, secondly, her cousin, Hector Roy Mackenzie, first of Gairloch (second son of Alexander "Ionraic" Mackenzie, VI. of Kintail). Hector was tutor of his nephew, John Mackenzie, IX. of Kintail. By his wife, Anne of Clanranald, he had four sons, and three daughters, the eldest of whom, John Glassich Mackenzie, succeeded as second baron of Gairloch.

Ranald, like his father, was tried in presence of the king, and executed at Perth, for some unrecorded crime, in 1513, when he was succeeded by his son,

XIII. DUGALD MACRANALD MACDONALD,

Sixth of Moydart, who, for his extreme cruelty and crimes against his own kindred, became detested by the clan. He was in consequence assassinated, and his sons were formally excluded from the succession. He was married, and had several lawful sons. "Allan, the eldest son of Dougal, and the undoubted heir-male of the Clanranald, acquired the estate of Morar, which he transmitted to his descendants. He and his successors were always styled 'MacDhughail Mhorair,' *i.e.*, Macdougal of Morar, from their ancestor, Dougal Macranald."* On the death of Dugall MacRanald, the command of the clan, with the family estates, was given to Alexander Allanson, second son of Allan MacRuari, fourth of Clanranald, and uncle of Dugall MacRanald, assassinated as above. This position Alexander held until his death in 1530. On the exclusion of Dugall's heirs, Ranald Gallda, son of Allan MacRuari by Isabella Fraser of Lovat, became the nearest male heir, but he

* Gregory's Highlands and Isles, p. 158.

seems to have taken no steps to assert his rights. This is perhaps not to be wondered at, for he and his friends might naturally conclude that if the clan passed over the nearest legal heirs-male—the sons of Dugall MacRanald—they might with equal justice at least refuse to receive and acknowledge as their chief, one whose claim was legally not so good, and whose reputation, in so far as it had reached them, was not such as they would admire in a chief of Clanranald. Indeed, once the clan had deposed the legal representative and heir-male, we do not see why they were not just as much entitled to choose the elder uncle Alexander and his natural son, John Moydartach, as they were to choose the younger uncle Ranald Gallda and his successors, who, so long as any of Dugall's lawful representatives remained, had no legal right to succeed, and of whom they knew nothing, as he had from his youth been brought up with his mother's family at Lovat, from which circumstance they called him *Gallda*, or the Foreigner.

Ranald Gallda was never married, but left three natural sons, Allan, John, and Alexander, all of whom received a charter of legitimation from the crown, dated 18th of June, 1555; and, on the 28th of January, 1562, Allan, the eldest son, received a gift of the non-entry duties of his father's lands of Moydart and Arasaig since his father's death in July, 1544. This Allan left one son, Angus, who, as we shall see, afterwards claimed and held the lands of Arasaig and Moydart, until he was dispossessed of them by Donald, John Moydartach's grandson, for which act he was forfeited and declared a rebel; but this sentence, on the death of the children of Angus—a son and a daughter—was soon after removed. The result of the Battle of Blarleine cleared the way from active opposition to John Moydartach, and left him in undisputed possession as Captain and actual chief of Clanranald of Moydart. How he conducted himself in that responsible and honourable position we shall now proceed to show.

XIV. JOHN MOYDARTACH MACDONALD,

Seventh of Clanranald, on the death of his father, Alexander MacAllan, who undoubtedly possessed Moydart, Arasaig, and stronghold of Castletirrim, obtained a charter of his father's lands from the crown, dated 11th February, 1531, in the following terms:—*Carta Joanni Mac Allestear, et hæredibus suis, de omnibus et singulis terris subscript, viz., viginti Septem mercat. terrarum de Moydart; triginta mercat. terrarum de Arisaik; Viginti una mercat. terrarum jacen. in Igk, et triginta mercat. terrarum de Skerihoff, cum pertinen. jacen. in Oest, infra vicecomitat de Inverness, quond. Alano Macrory, avo dicti Joannis et suis prædecessoribus in hæreditate ab antiquo pertinuerunt, et per ipsos ultra hominum memoriam pacifice possessuerunt, et quod ipsorum cartæ et evidentie earundum per guerram et perturbationis in provincia amissæ et districtæ existunt. Tenend. de Rege, &c., Reddendo, &c. Servitium warde et relevii una cum maretagiorum contingerunt; cum clausula de non alienationis, absque licentio Regis, testibus ut in aliis, dat. Apud Edinb., 11th die Februarii, 1531.*"

The Glengarry champion in the controversy of 1818-19 says of this instrument, after stating that Ranald Allanson took out charters in his own favour in 1498 and 1505, that "a measure, so new and not so well understood, appears to have suggested the idea to Ean Moydartach to apply for a charter also—the better to secure him in his usurped possessions. He represented, but he represented falsely, that the lands were possessed by him and his predecessors past memory of man. He took no notice of the prior charters in favour of his uncle, which were on record. The crown was willing to get Highland proprietors to acknowledge a superior, and, without inquiry, granted, in the year 1531, a charter in his favour proceeding expressly upon such narrative. When, however, it came to the knowledge of Ranald Allanson that the charter was surreptitiously taken out, he, in his turn, made application for having it

recalled, and succeeded, and got the investitures renewed in his own person in 1540, and upon the ground that Ean Moydartach's infeftments were obtained *ex sinistra unjsta informatione*.* The Clanranald champion, in reply, admits the charge and says that "he (Ranald) took out a charter of the lands of Arisaig and Moydart on the 14th December, 1540. This charter undoubtedly recals a charter granted to John of Moydart in 1531, of the same lands, *which I have no hesitation in stating was improperly obtained*." The words of the precept, dated the 13th of December, 1540, the day before the date of the charter itself, in favour of Ranald Gallda, are, "revocat, cassat, annullat, et exonerat, cartam et infeofamentum per ipsum per sinistrum informationem in nostra minori ætate Johanni Mac Alester, de predictis terris. Confectam et concessam." The charter itself is almost in the same words.

There is a summons of treason against several Highland chiefs, dated 26th of April, 1531, and "Johanne Mordordache de Ellanthorym, Capitaneo de Clanronald," is among the number. No serious steps appear to have been taken against him in consequence, for it is only ten months after, on the 11th of February in the same year, that he obtained the charter already quoted.† The author of the History of Clanranald informs us that, not appearing in answer to the summons on the 26th of April, the day appointed, it was continued till the 28th, and on that day it was again continued till the 26th of May. "Further procedure appears to have been dropped against him, most probably owing to his being reconciled to the King; for, having married Margaret MacKeane, a daughter of Macdonald of Ardnamurchan, he, in July, 1534, obtained from the crown a charter of the lands of Kildonan, Moy, and others in favour of himself and his spouse." The Kildonan named was in the Island of Egg.‡ The same writer says

* Glengarry and Clanranald Controversy, pp. 68-69.

† The year in those days began on the 25th of March, not on the 1st of January as at present, so that February is later in the year than April,

‡ Reg. Mag. Lib., 25, No. 141.

of the Precept of the lands in favour of Ranald, above quoted, that John "had no opportunity of showing that he had a lawful title to the lands, the king having at once reduced his charter, without any legal steps whatever ; and the consequence was that John resolved to maintain his title, and he actually did so in face of all opposition. The injustice done him he severely felt, and this feeling seems to have actuated him in almost every action of his life, for at no period does he ever seem to have been thoroughly reconciled to the king, or rulers of the kingdom ; and the battle of Blarleine, and consequent possession of immense estates and power enabled him, upon every occasion, to distress and harass the government."

John Moydartach, was a man of unsurpassed capacity and talent in diplomacy and war. His "mental endowments, with his great physical prowess, made him so popular that the circumstance of his illegitimacy was ignored, and on the death of his father he was unanimously elected by the clan to be their captain and chief—to the exclusion of cousins and his uncle Ranald Gallda, any of whom had legally a preferential claim. On the death of Allaster (second son of Allan MacRuari), which took place in 1530, his bastard son, John Moydartach, a man of uncommon talent and ability, was acknowledged by the whole clan as their chief ; and he even succeeded in procuring charters to the estates. These he possessed without interruption, till, with other chiefs, he was apprehended by James V. in the course of that king's voyage through the Isles in 1540, and placed in prison. Lord Lovat and the Frasers then bestirred themselves for the interest of their kinsman, Ranald Gallda, and made such representations on the subject, that the charters formerly granted to John Moydartach were revoked, and the lands granted to Ranald Gallda, as the heir of his father, Allan MacRuari. The existence of prior legal heirs (the sons of Dougal) seems to have been carefully concealed ; and, by the assistance of the Frasers, Ranald was actually placed in possession of the estate, which he held only so long as John Moydartach

remained in prison ; for immediately on the return of that chief to the Highlands he was joined by the whole of the Clanranald, including the sons of Dougal, and again acknowledged as their chief. Ranald, who had lost favour with the clan by exhibiting a parsimonious disposition, was expelled from Moydart, and forced to take refuge with Lord Lovat, who once more prepared to assert the rights of his kinsman. The Clanranald, however, did not wait to be attacked, but, assisted by Ranald MacDonald Glas of Keppoch and his tribe, and by the Clanchameron, under their veteran leader, Ewin Allanson of Lochiel, they carried the war into the enemy's country.* They soon over-ran the lands of Stratherrick and Abertarff, belonging to Lord Lovat, the lands of Urquhart and Glenmorriston, belonging to the Grants, and even possessed themselves of the Castle of Urquhart. They plundered indiscriminately the whole district, and aimed at a permanent occupation of the invaded territories. The Earl of Huntly was ultimately sent against them with a large force, among whom we find Lovat, the Laird of Grant, and Ranald Gallda. On the approach of this strong force, the Highlanders of Clanranald retreated to their mountain fastnesses, leaving Huntly and his followers to penetrate through the country without any opposition. Ranald Gallda was again, without opposition, put in possession of Moydart, while the lands were at the same time restored to those who were driven from them by Clanranald and their allies. Huntly now returned with his followers, accompanied, out of compliment, by Ranald Gallda. The Clanranald kept a close watch upon their movements, followed them at a distance, overtook them at Kinlochlochry, where the desperate Battle of Blarleine was fought, on the 15th of July, 1544. Lovat, the Master of Lovat, and Ranald Gallda, with almost all their followers, were slain ; with the result that the Macdonalds of Clanranald maintained in possession of the estate and chiefship a distinguished leader of their own choosing, the famous

* Gregory, p. 158.

John Moydartach, against one who possessed greater legal claims, and who was supported by all the influence of the feudal law. John afterwards transmitted to his descendants, without serious difficulty, the great possessions which he had so bravely won by the sword.

As to the alleged parsimony and effeminacy of Ranald Gallda we find the following reference in the *Clanranald Family History* (pp. 92-93):—"This interference of Lovat could ill be brooked by the Macdonalds, and the unlimited control which they observed the former to have over his young friend, convinced the clan that what they had heard of his effeminacy, was but too true, for it was circulated in the country that he was a boy, unfit for command or rule. A circumstance trifling in itself, tended to strengthen this conviction. A day or two after Ranald's arrival at Castletirrim, preparations were made for a feast to be given to the clan on his succession. Many sheep and cattle were slaughtered, and Ranald, observing a great number of fires in the court of the castle, and the busy faces of the cooks employed in dressing immense quantities of victual, inquired the cause of such a scene, when he was informed that the 'feast of welcome' was to be given on that day, in honour of his succession; and, unused to the sight of such feasts, and having no idea of such preparations, he unfortunately observed that 'a few hens might do as well'. Such an observation was not lost upon the clan; they despised the man who could for a moment think of departing from the ancient practice, and they were confirmed in their belief of his weakness and want of spirit. They rose in arms and expelled both him and Lovat from the castle, and the feast which was prepared for them served to commemorate the election of John, who was formally declared chief of the clan." This occurred on Ranald's first appearance at Castletirrim, who at the desperate Battle of Blarleine amply proved by his heroism that whether the charge of parsimoniousness was well founded or not, effeminacy had no seat in his soul; for it is admitted by

friends and foes that no one exhibited greater bravery and determination on that bloody field than he.

The following is the traditionary account of this sanguinary engagement :—John Moydartach, guessing the route Lovat was likely to take on his way home, marched down behind the range of mountains to the north of Loch-lochy, and encamped on the night previous to the battle in a glen among the hills immediately behind the farm of Kilfinnan, near a small loch, called Lochan-nam-bata, the loch of the staves. In the muddy margin of this little loch, the Moydart men left their staves on the morning of the battle, that by the number of unclaimed ones they might ascertain their losses in the impending struggle. Such is said to be the origin of the name. On the morning of the day of battle, they encamped out of sight at Lochan-nam-bata, till of a sudden they descended like birds of prey from their eyry, on the morning of the 15th. This is probable, as it was John Moydartach's best policy to conceal his forces till Lovat was in a position in which he could not decline battle against superior numbers. The Frasers numbered about three hundred men. The Clanranald brought five hundred warriors to the field. This disparity, sufficiently great to begin with, became greater, as Lovat found it necessary to detach fifty of his men, under command of his Lieutenant, Beathan Cleireach, to secure a safe retreat in case of discomfiture, which he apprehended owing to the disparity between the combatants. John Moydartach's tactics proved successful. Just as Lovat with his followers arrived at the east end of Loch Lochy, he descended with his grim warriors from the hills right opposite ; a movement, judging from the distance, which could be performed in a very short time. Lovat was now fully alive to the error he had committed in not accepting Huntly's proffered escort, but it was now too late. He had no alternative but to accept the chances of battle. Accordingly he made the best disposition of his forces, by placing the gentlemen of his little army, who were well armed, in front, and the others in the rear. The day was

unusually hot. To ease themselves as much as possible, they prepared for the conflict by stripping themselves of their upper raiment—all but their shirts and kilts. Hence the name *Blarleine*, or *Blar-nan-leine*, by which this battle is known among the Highlanders. The fight began with a discharge of arrows—the usual mode of Highland warfare in those times—and when their arrows were expended, the struggle was carried on hand to hand with the sword. From the allusion to gunpowder, in the following lines, adapted to a *pibroch* composed in commemoration of this action, we infer that fire-arms must have been used—at least to some extent :

Fhriseilich a chail chaoil,
 Fhriseilich a chail chaoil,
 Fhriseilich a chail chaoil.
 Thugaibh am bruthach oirbh.
 Chloinn Domhnuil an fhraoich,
 Chloinn Domhnuil an fhraoich,
 Chloinn Domhnuil an fhraoich,
 Cuiribh na 'n siubhal iad.
 Luaidhe chruinn ghorm,
 Luaidhe chruinn ghorm,
 Luaidhe chruinn ghorm,
 'S fudar 'cur siubhal ri.

The battle was fought from mid-day till late in the afternoon, and consisted latterly of isolated single combats. Both sides fought with determined courage, neither side yielding until—of the Frasers only four remained unwounded, and of the Clanranald eight. The others were either dead or disabled. Ranald Gallda was accounted the best swordsman of all that fought in this well-contested field. Many of the foe fell beneath his powerful weapon ; and it was more by stratagem than by strength or skill, that he was disabled towards the close of the struggle. Two noted Moydart warriors, father and son, fought under the banner of their chief. The son, known by the soubriquet of “*An Gille maol dubh*,” while performing deeds of valour himself, had his eye upon his aged sire, marking how, as foe after foe fell beneath the weapon of Ranald Gallda, that warrior came nearer and nearer to his father. The two at length joined in deadly strife. The older combatant gave ground before his more vigorous rival—on observing

which, the "Gille maol dubh" exclaimed, "'S beag orm ceum air ais an t-seann duine," I like not the backward step of an old man. The father replied, "A' bheil thusa 'n sin a Ghille mhaoil duibh, ma tha bi 'n so'." Are you there, if so be here; whereupon the son stepped forward and took his father's place at the moment when the latter had fallen mortally wounded. For a time the contest was doubtful, but finding himself overmatched by the skill and prowess of his opponent, the "Gille maol dubh" exclaimed, "Cha bhi mi 'm brath foille's tu, seall air do chulthaobh," I won't take advantage of you, look behind. Apprehending treachery, Ranald instinctively turned round, and in the act of doing so the Moydart man felled him to the ground. This ended the fray. Ranald Gallda dead, as it was thought, John Moydartach had nothing to fear from him; nor the Frasers anything further to contend for; and the few that survived unscathed on either side sullenly withdrew from what may be called a drawn battle. Lovat, his eldest son the Master, and Ranald Gallda, with eighty gentlemen of the Frasers, besides others of less note, had fallen. At the outset, as both sides were about to give battle, to Lovat's grief he was joined by the Master, a youth of great promise just returned from abroad. He had been strictly charged by his father not to take part in the expedition, and accordingly remained at home after its departure. But stung by the taunts of a step-mother, who insinuated cowardice, she secretly hoping his fall might make way for advancement of her own son; the gallant youth chose twelve trusty companions, followed his father and clan, and arrived at Kinlochlochry in time to take part in the fight which brought him to an untimely end. There is, right opposite the battlefield of Dalruari, where the present road curves westward towards the farm house of Kilfinnan, a hillock, still known by the name of Cnocan-oich-oich. Oich! in Gaelic is expressive of pain. On this hillock, at the time the battle was fought, there was a hostelry, and a barn adjoining, into which many of the wounded were carried to have the benefit of such medical

skill as was then available. Into this barn Ranald Gallda, dangerously wounded, was, with others, carried. During the night, the surviving Macdonalds indulged largely in potations of "mountain dew," were jubilant over the discomfiture of the Frasers, and boasted of their own individual feats in arms. Ranald Gallda, who overheard their conversations, unwisely remarked "that there was one Macdonald, who had he been alive, might well have boasted of his prowess; and that had he himself been what he was that morning, he would encounter them all single handed, rather than that one brave man had fallen that day beneath his sword." This unguarded remark discovered who their wounded prisoner was. Irritated by the taunt, they bribed the leech who dressed the wound to thrust his needle into his brain when dressing his head. Thus perished Ranald Gallda by the hands of his own clan—a man whose capacity as well as prowess deserved a better fate at their hands. The loss sustained by the Frasers, great as it was, would have been still more disastrous to the clan but for a remarkable circumstance which we have upon the authority both of Buchanan and Sir Robert Gordon, that the wives of the slain Frasers—almost all of them—subsequently gave birth to sons. This is corroborated by more than one of the Clan historians. And while some slight margin may be allowed for more or less exaggeration—if such there be—we have no reason to doubt the substantial accuracy of the testimony of these men.*

Another version differs from the above in some details, and it deserves a place here, though we hesitate to believe the part attributed to the heroic John Moydartach in the death scene of his brave relative, Ranald Gallda. After some lengthy remarks as to the incidents which led up to the battle, of the same character as those already set forth, the chronicle proceeds:—Among the Macdonalds there was an old man who had seven sons by his first wife, and one by a second, who was still a youth. This

* The Rev. Alex. Sinclair, M.A., in the *Celtic Magazine*.

person was himself a powerful and a skilful swordsman, and his seven sons were not inferior to their stern and stalwart father, either in strength or dexterity in the use of their weapons. The Macdonalds had proceeded on their march with great celerity, and some of them were outrun in the race; but when they mustered their numbers on the top of the hill of North Laggan, ere they descended into the plain, the old man found that he was not only surrounded by his seven sons by his first, but also attended by a youth, the only son by a second wife whom he passionately loved, and whom he could not think of leaving behind him, in the event of his fall in the battle, bereaved of her only son. He therefore tried all his powers of persuasion, but in vain, to induce the youth to return home. At length, determined to try the effect of taunts, since other means had failed, he exclaimed in accents of coarse severity, "I hate to see in battle a beardless youth, escaped from the spoon-feeding care of your mother!" The youth said nothing, but descended into the field of battle by the side of his veteran and determined father. When Lovat issued from the wood of Letterfinlay, on the broad field of Culross, he saw the Macdonalds drawn up in line with their right wing resting on the head of Lochlochry, and their left on a marsh below the house of Kinloch, thus cutting off his route to his own country by Shian and Laggan. He was now again strongly advised, by one of the patriarchs of his clan, to ascend the hill slantingly, above Kinloch, and cross by Corryshian, into Glenroy, and, by this route, to rejoin the Macintoshes, and to proceed to his own country by Moyhall. But Lovat and his brave clan were by far too proud and high-minded "to fly from an unfoughten field," and so he immediately advanced to plunge into battle; but the day being extremely hot, and seeing that the Macdonalds had stripped, as had been the wont of the clan when fighting in their own country (as on the day of the battle of the Grampians and that of Killiecrankie), he ordered his clan to strip also. Hence this memorable clan engagement is called the battle of Blairleine—the field of shirts.

The space on which this bloody clan-battle was fought did not exceed half a mile square, being bounded on the one side by Lochlochy, on the other side by the bog already mentioned, and on the other two sides, by the hills of Kinloch and Kilianan. This space is now partly covered by the loch, which has been embanked at Gairlochy, and so deepened, and thrown eastward ; and also by the Caledonian Canal ; but the two hillocks to which the wounded and the dying are said to have crawled from the field are still visible, the one on the south, and the other on the north side of the glen ; but both now are almost covered by the head of the loch. The one was called *Cnocan nan creuchd*, and the other, *Cnocan oich-oich* !—names very appropriate for the stations of wounded men.

Ranald Gallda, young, powerful, and active, and a perfect master of the science of swordmanship, was determined to requite upon the loftiest crests in the Macdonald band the insults and the contempt of which he had been the object, and the now deliberate usurpation of his title, office, and rights, as chief of his clan, by his uncle. Resolved to bring the stern question between them to the arbitrement of a personal conflict, he overlooked every meaner object of vengeance, and made incredible exertions to meet him in the battle ; but cool, wary, and skilful, John of Moydart, surrounded by his *leine-chrios*, or shirt of mail, as the body guard of a Highland chief has ever been called, seemed to decline or to overlook his nephew's repeated attempts to come into contest with him, and traversed the field, wherever his presence was needed—here restoring order in his own ranks, and there beating the enemy to the ground. But not unscathed did this devoted band move through the ranks of the enemy, though everywhere attended by victory. The swords of Ranald Gallda and his gallant relative, Lovat, who, with his *leine-chrios* never lost sight of his young, brave, and distinguished nephew—distinguished not less by his lofty and commanding stature, than his irresistible sword—were cutting them to the ground, one by one, until, of these gallant bands, composed of the choice

warriors of both clans, none were left but Ranald Gallda and the old veteran formerly mentioned. The old man saw four of his gigantic and brave sons cut down before his eyes, by Lovat and Ranald Gallda, while he himself was compelled to stand fixed to the spot, like a chained lion, over the prostrate body of his chief, John of Moydart, who had fallen severely wounded, to guard it from further injury, until removed from the field; the other three had fallen at an early period of the engagement. The wounded chief having been carried away, the old man, inflamed with feelings of the most deadly hate and revenge against Ranald Gallda, now assailed him with terrible fury, but finding himself baffled by the skilful swordsmanship of Ranald, and feeling his own inferiority, if not in strength, at least in quickness and agility of action, he changed from the offensive to the defensive, and while parrying the dexterous strokes and thrusts of his opponent, was slyly giving ground, inch by inch, thus, in his politic retreat, drawing his opponent towards the Macdonald side of the field. At this moment, his youngest son, by his second marriage (who had been separated from him, and was running in great anxiety and distress, over the now comparatively silent and deserted field of battle, looking for his father) made his appearance; and, either not comprehending the motive of the retreating steps of the veteran, or still remembering with some indignation, the taunt of the morning, exclaimed, "I hate the sight which meets my eye, the backward steps of an old man in battle!" and he instantly dashed in, sword and target in hand, between the old man and Ranald, calling out "*Cothrum na Feinne*"—the equal combat of the Fingalians—being the usual pledge in a fair field and no favour, among the clans. Though equal in courage to his opponent, yet the youth was far his inferior in strength and skill in the use of his weapon. This was evident to the old man at a glance, and his feelings of hatred and revenge against Ranald Gallda being now excited to madness, by alarm for his young, gallant, and only remaining son, a demon thought

entered his heart, and he called out, "I will not be a traitor to you, Ranald, they are at you behind!" Ranald, thrown off his guard, in the impulse of the moment looked behind him, and was instantly cut down by the old man, who raised a shout of triumph that communicated the fall of Ranald Gallda to friends and foes over all the field.

Lovat and Ranald Gallda down, and but few, indeed, of their chivalrous and gallant clan now left, the survivors determined, if possible, to make good their retreat, and draw off to the south-east corner of the field, where they still formed a small band of brothers and kinsmen. But the remnant of the Macdonalds, though in number scarcely exceeding their own, were excited and exasperated into fury by the resistance they had met, and the loss—the irremediable loss—all and each of them had sustained in kinsmen and brothers, dear and precious to their hearts, on the fatal field of Blair-leine. They, accordingly, mustered all their strength on the opposite side of the field, and prepared for a new, a last, and an exterminating assault on the remnant of the Frasers, who seeing that all further resistance was aimless, if not hopeless, fled with precipitation through the great glen of Albyn, towards their now bereaved country and families; but such was the inveteracy and determination of the vengeful Macdonalds, that they followed in hot pursuit, slaying all whom they could overtake on the way, for the distance of about ten miles.

In the meantime Ranald Gallda was carried, still alive, from the field, and laid on a bed in a hut by the side of Cnocan oich-oich, while a wild, hair-brained personage, who was alternately the prophet and the leech of the clan, after having examined the wound, proceeded to report the state of the case to John of Moydart. "Will he live?" enquired the chief, with a kindling eye and husky voice, casting a look of intelligence at the leech. "He might live," replied the wretch, "but so small is his hold of life that the point of the *dealg* (pin) which fastens your plaid were sufficient to

send him to eternity, for his brain is laid open by the wound." The chief drew the dealg in silence, from his plaid, and handed it to the leech, who with a fiendish smile on his thin and haggard face, instantly entered the hut, where he found the old man and the youth, his son, watching over the apparently unconscious chief, and bathing his couch with their tears—a change of feeling not uncharacteristic of the wild, passionate, but kind warm-hearted Highland warrior of the olden time.

The leech approached the bed and tried, with a gentle hand, to remove the dirk, a weapon which the young chief loved, and which, somehow or other, he had contrived to draw from its sheath as he was being carried from the field ; but he found that the attempt was discovered, and that Ranald Gallda had still sufficient strength to resist him. The old man observed the attempt of the leech, and the tightening grasp of the chief on his dagger, and said fiercely, "Why dost thou want to disarm his hand ? Can'st thou not examine and bind up the wound without removing the dirk ?" "I like not," said the leech, "to exercise my skill on armed men ; but if thou wilt remove the weapon, I will do all I can to relieve him, although I fear there is little chance of his recovery, the strongest arm of the Clanranald having addressed his trenchant blade to his skull."

The old man groaned in the inmost core of his heart, and said, "Would that that arm had been in the grave ere it aimed the accursed blow at his head ; but alas, alas, no man need now fear the dirk of the heroic chief. Do thou examine the wound, and if you canst but cure and set him again on his feet, thou mayst ever count on an unfailing friend in me, and every man who will adhere to me in his defence."

The leech, in seeming compliance, made the old man and his son draw back from the bed, and leaned over the chief in the apparent examination of the wound. Ranald Gallda gave a convulsive start ; the leech shrunk back in alarm, but with the quickness of lightning, Ranald's dirk was

buried in his heart ; and, with this last act of just vengeance, Ranald Gallda ceased to live.

John Moydartach is soon after engaged with the neighbouring clans, particularly the Frasers and Mackintoshes. "The battle of Blarleine had not been forgotten by Lovat, and he and Mackintosh took every opportunity of distressing him ; the Earl of Sutherland, too, prompted perhaps by the wish of sharing part of John's inheritance, was an active but secret instigator of all disputes—and the consequence was that a warfare was constantly carried on. In this John was supported by the whole of his clan, particularly Glengarry, and the Lairds of Knoydart and Morar. The irresolute conduct of the Regent of the Kingdom, and the universal sway which the Earl of Huntly, then Lieutenant of the North, had over the neighbourhood, contributed in no small degree to keep alive the animosity which then existed. Huntly's ambition was unbounded ; his lands marched with those of the Clanranald in several parts, and could he have succeeded in reducing their power, there is little doubt but he would have reaped the whole benefit of the enterprise. Inroads were mutually made, and with various success, till the year 1554, when the Regent having resigned the government of the kingdom into the Queen Dowager's hands, and peace being for a time settled with the English, the Queen Regent and governor set about the internal settlement of the kingdom. Huntly was active in representing the conduct of John in its most unfavourable light, and he was at last despatched to bring him to the Queen Regent. He collected his own clan, the Gordons, as well as the Frasers and Mackintoshes, and marched forward to Moydart, into which he partly penetrated. John, in the meantime, was not inactive ; he summoned the clan, and opposed Huntly with such a force as completely intimidated him. No action of any importance was fought, as it was alleged by Huntly that the Clan Chattan raised a tumult in the camp, which compelled him to retire. Be this as it may, Huntly, having completely failed in the enterprise, was committed to the Castle of

Edinburgh, and was severely attacked by his enemies ; who averred that the failure originated, not in the behaviour of the Clan Chattan, but in Huntly himself having a dislike to Mackintosh, the chief of that clan. When it is considered that Huntly was at that time one of the most powerful noblemen in the kingdom, and that his strength lay in the very neighbourhood, it can hardly be supposed that the defection of the Clan Chattan would have compelled him to retire ; and when, again, it is observed that Huntly at all times had a dislike to the Clanranald, and that the recent battle of Blairleine must have tended to strengthen that dislike, it is far less to be supposed that he would have favoured their cause. The more natural supposition is, that he saw the strength of John was such as to give him little chance of success, and he threw the blame of the defeat upon the Clan Chattan, while his enemies averred that he acted disloyally. This enterprise having completely failed, the Queen Regent was extremely indignant ; she shortly afterwards proceeded to Inverness, and held assizes, to which she summoned John, and the heads of those collateral branches of the clan who supported him ; but they refused to obey the summons, unless assured of their safety. John Stewart, Earl of Athole, was despatched against them in July 1555. Athole was rather favourably inclined towards the Clanranald, and promised pardon and protection to them. John was induced to go to Inverness with several of his sons ; he had been but a short time there when, fearing treachery, he made his escape to Castletirrim. On his way he was attacked by Mackintosh and the Clan Chattan, whom he beat off ; but having but few followers, he could not attempt any retaliation upon them. He very shortly afterwards became reconciled to the Queen Regent, and returned to Inverness. While there he became acquainted with Penelope, second daughter of Sir Charles Erskine, who was third son of Alexander, Viscount Fenton, and (his former wife, Mariatte M'Kane, being dead) married her in the year 1555.*

* History of the Family, 1819, pp. 101-103.

In 1547, John was commanded, among other Highland chiefs, to assemble at Fallow Muir to resist the English, who came to enforce the performance of a treaty of marriage which had previously been entered into for the marriage of Queen Mary with the heir to the English crown. John not only refused to go, but prevented all his retainers from doing so; and his influence was sufficient among the clan to induce the other leading chiefs and their followers to do the same. After the battle of Blarleine, the Earl of Huntly returned North with a strong force, when he laid a great part of the country waste, and apprehended many of the principal leaders of the clans, some of whom he put to death. Among the latter were Ewin Allanson of Lochiel and Ranald Macdonald, son of Donald Glas of Keppoch, who were tried for high treason, for the part they had taken at the battle of Blarleine and in the rebellions of the Earl of Lennox. These were tried by a jury of landed gentlemen, found guilty, for a short time imprisoned in the Castle of Ruthven, and then beheaded. Their heads were exposed over the gates of the town of Elgin. Many of the others apprehended at the same time were ignominiously hanged. John Moydartach does not appear on this occasion to have opposed Huntly, but is said to have taken shelter in the Isles, from which he returned as soon as the Earl of Huntly left the North, and retaliated on Huntly's neighbouring property and friends, by plundering and wasting their territories.

In 1548, the Highlanders, who refused to assemble at Fallow Muir, and who still remained outlaws, seem to have been pardoned, in consequence of the disastrous results of the battle of Pinky, on more favourable terms than they could reasonably have expected in the circumstances. John Moydartach shared in this clemency. We find a respite, dated 26th of August, 1548, in favour of "Jhone Muyduart MacAlester, Captaine of Clanranald; Angus MacAlester, his brother; Rorye MacAlester; Allan MacAlester, sons to Jhone Muyduart; Alester MacAne vic Alester of Glengarie; Alester MacDowell vic Rynell;

Angus MacAngus Moir ; Angus MacAllane vic Ranald of Knowdart ; Allane Owge MacAlester vic Allane ; Alester MacDonald vic Ane of Ardmowarche ; Angus MacAlester vic Angus ; Donald MacAlester vic Kane ; Allan MacPerson vic Alester ; Donald Moir MacAne vic Illane, for yr treasonable remaining and abyding at hame fra our Soverane Ladyis oist and army, devisit and ordanit to convene upon Fallow-mure, ye last day of August ye zeir of God Jm. Vc., xlvii. [1547] zers for resisting of the Protector of England and his army, yam beand wt'in yis realme for destruction of ye lieges yrof, and for the slauchter of ye Lord Lovet and his complices at [Blarleine] ye yeir of God Jm. Vc. forty [four] zers ; and for all actions, &c., and for xix. zers to endure. At Musselburgh, ye xxvi. day of August, the zere of God Jm. Vc. xlviii. zers. Per Signatarum."* In spite of the leniency displayed towards him on this occasion, John could not give up his habits of war and pillage. He had little faith in the government, and he probably thought it much safer for himself and his clan, in their almost inaccessible wilds, to resist a power which he could not help seeing was, at this period, fast falling into decay.

At Inverness, on the 24th of August, 1552, we find a Commission, under the great seal, granted by Mary Queen of Scots, with the advice of James, Duke of Chatelherault, Earl of Arran, and Lord Hamilton, Protector and Governor of the Kingdom, to Archibald, Earl of Argyll, Lord Campbell and Lorn, and Justice General of Scotland, which proceeds, "that notwithstanding the said Governor has remained for a long time dispensing justice in the Burgh of Inverness, the Clanranald nevertheless refused obedience to Her Majesty's authority and laws, with the other subjects of the kingdom ; wherefore Her Majesty gives full power to the said Earl of Argyll to assemble his friends and vassals, and with them go to Clanranald, and to pursue them with fire and sword, and within whatever islands they may seek refuge, for their disobedience, depre-

* Privy Seal, vol. xxii., folio 27.

dations, and murders.”* Queen Mary of Guise, at this time in France, soon after came to Scotland, succeeded Arran as Protector, and became vested with full authority. She immediately ordered Huntly north with another expedition for the express purpose of apprehending the Captain of Clanranald, and putting an end to his violent proceedings.

In June, 1554, the Earls of Huntly and Argyll “were ordered to proceed, by sea and land, to the utter extermination of the Clanranald,” and others who had failed to give hostages for their good conduct. Argyll proceeded to the Isles, while Huntly with a large force, composed of Lowlanders and Highlanders, proceeded to attack Clanranald. Both failed in the object of their expedition, Huntly, because the Highlanders were so much exasperated against Huntly for his execution of William Mackintosh of Mackintosh in 1550, that the Earl declined to face Clanranald with such an army, after which he disbanded his forces and returned home. He was, in consequence, committed to the prison of Edinburgh, by the Regent, and did not obtain his liberty until he had renounced among other lucrative grants which he had recently acquired, the Earldoms of Mar and Moray, and the gift of the ward and marriage of Mary Macleod, heiress of Harris, Dunvegan, and Glenelg; while he became bound to banish himself to France for five years; but this latter condition was removed on payment to the Regent of a sum of £5000.

Gregory, describing the Earl of Athole’s expedition to the North in 1555, says that Athole succeeded so well with John, Captain of Clanranald, “that he prevailed upon that restless chief, with two of his sons, and certain of his kinsmen, to come before the Regent, and submit themselves to her clemency. Mary of Guise, pleased with their submission, pardoned them their past offences; but ordered them, in the meantime, to remain, some at Perth, and others at the Castle of Methven, till her will should be further declared to them. After remaining, however, in these

* *Invernessiana*, p. 223.

places for a short time, the Highlanders made their escape to their native mountains ; giving the Regent a lesson, as a Scottish annalist [Balfour] quaintly observes, 'to hold the fox better by the ear while she had him in her hands'. This result of her mistaken lenity roused the Regent to greater exertions, and determined her to proceed next year in person to the North, to hold Justice Courts for the punishment of great offenders, and thus to prevent misrule in time coming. Accordingly, in the month of July, 1556, Mary of Guise arrived at Inverness, accompanied by the Earls of Huntly, Argyll, Athole, and Marischal, and the Bishops of Ross and Orkney, with others of the Privy Council. Here Courts were held, and offenders were visited with the most severe punishment—the chiefs of clans being obliged to apprehend and present to justice the criminals of their own tribes, according to the wise regulations by James V., which during the late wars, had fallen into desuetude. As John Moydartach is not mentioned at all by Lesley in his account of this progress of the Queen Regent to the North, it seems probable that this arch-rebel had escaped the punishment which awaited him by flying to the more remote Isles.*

When Queen Mary visited Inverness in September, 1563, and was denied access to the Castle, John, Captain of Clanranald, made his appearance with a numerous retinue, and was among the foremost, with the Mackintoshes, Frasers, and Munroes, to protect the Queen, whom he accompanied for some distance on her return journey ; and he appears to have continued firm in his loyalty during the remainder of his life. In 1566, he obtained a remission for past offences for himself, his sons, and all those who had taken part in his rebellious proceedings, dated 3d of March.†

* Highlands and Isles, pp. 185-186,

† The document (Privy Seal, vol. xxxv., p. 10), is as follows:—*Preceptum remissionis Johannis MacAlister, alias Moydart, Capitanei de Clanranald ; Allan MacAne Vic Alestar, ejus filii ; Johannis Oig MacAne Vic Alestar, etiam ejus filii ; Rorie MacAne Vic Alestar, etiam sui filii ; Angusii MacAne Vic Alestar. etiam filii dicti Johannis ; Donaldi Gorme MacAne Vic Alestar, etiam sui filii ; Alani MacCawell Vic Rannald de Moroure, Angusii MacAllane Mac Rannald de Knoydart,*

The following corroborates the authorities already quoted :—"In 1532 King James V. granted a charter of legitimation in favour of John Makalester of Castletirrim, the son of the deceased Alexander M'Alane of Castletirrim, and in the same year, for the good service done and to be done by him, and seeing that the charters granted to his predecessors had been destroyed through war and other local disturbances, granted anew to him and to his heirs the 27 mark lands of Moydart, the 30 mark lands of Arisaik, and other lands in the Sherifffdom of Inverness, which of old belonged in heritage to Allan Makrory, the grandfather of John Makalestar of Castletirrim, and to his predecessors, and now to be held of the king in fee for service of ward, relief, and marriage, provided that John Makalester and his heirs should not do homage to any person without the special licence of the king. In 1534, John M'Allaster Vic Allan, captain of the Clanranald, granted to Archibald, Earl of Argyll, the two Kinluthes, Aernie, Glenalladill, Blyng, and Shenan, together of the old extent of 10 marks, in the barony of Moydart. In the same year the granter of these lands appears as John M'Alester M'Allan of Elanterim, captain of the Clanranald. In 1538, King James V. granted to Alane M'Coule M'Rannald, and his brother Lauchlane M'Coule M'Rannald, the nonentry and other dues of 14 mark lands of Morowre and 7 mark lands in Awrissaig, and other lands, in the sheriffdom of Inverness. In 1540, the same king granted the nonentry and other dues of the same lands to Archibald, Earl of Ergile, the lands, according to the grant, having been in the king's hands since the decease of John Makangus Reoch Makranald. In the same year he granted to

Angusii Mac Alestar Vic Ane de Glengary ; Rorie, ejus fratris ; Gorie, ejus fratris ; Alane, etiam sui fratris ; et Johannis Mac Condochie Cowill, pro ipsorum proditoria, remanentia, et domi existentia, ab exercitu apud Falew Muir, et ab hinc ad Maxwell Heuch migratione ; pro resistentia antiquorum inimicorum Anglie, in mense Octobris anno domini millesimo quingentesimo quartuagesimo septimo, convenire ordinat ; nec non ab omnibus alliis actionibus criminibus, transgressionibus, et offensionibus, per ipsos vel eorum aliquem, aliquibus temporibus preteritis preceden. diem date presentiam commiss. et perpetrat. Apud Edinburgh, tertio die mensis Marcij, anno Domini prescript. (1566) per signetum."

Ranald Alanesoun, styled Galda, the dues of the 27 mark lands of Moydert, and the 24 mark lands of Arissaik, in the Sheriffdom of Inverness, which were in the king's hands since the decease of Alane Rorisoun, Ranald's father. At the same time, on the narrative that it appeared that the deceased Alan Rorysoun of Moydert, the father of Ranald Alanesoun, and his predecessors had been heritably infeft in the same lands, and that all their charters had been lost or destroyed through disturbances in that district, in consequence of which Ranald could never obtain entry as his father's heir, King James V. granted him the lands anew, and revoked a grant of them made in his minority to John Makalester on sinister and unjust information, and all other grants of the same lands which he had given to any other persons. Ranald died in 1544, and in 1563 Queen Mary granted to his son Allane Makrannald, the dues of the 30 marks of Mwdart, and the 30 marks of Arissak, and other lands, which were in her hands since his father's decease."*

In 1545, John MacAlister, Captain of Clanranald, and Angus Ranaldson of Knoydart, are found among the Council of Donald Dubh, who had only a short time previously been proclaimed and acknowledged by all the Macdonalds as Lord of the Isles.

John was undoubtedly one of the most distinguished warriors and leaders of the whole Macdonald race, and by his brilliant talents and his consummate skill and bravery in the field, he raised himself to the highest position in the clan; while his regard for, and attention to, his own more immediate retainers ensured for him their warmest respect and admiration. The most distinguished leaders of the other branches of the race of Somerled acknowledged his surpassing ability, and followed him in all his proceedings against the common enemy; and he never failed, when procuring any personal favours, to include those who joined him in his dangerous exploits. During the last twenty years of his life he appears to have lived quietly, unmolested

* *Origines Pariochales Scotiæ*, vol. ii., pp. 202-203.

and unmolesting, among his devoted people ; for, in common with the rest of the Highlanders, he scarcely felt any interest in that period of Scottish history, during which the proceedings of Mary Queen of Scots, her marriages, captivity, and death, so much absorbed the attention of the southern part of the kingdom.

He married, first, Marriate Macian of Ardnamurchan, with issue—

1. Allan, his heir.
2. John Og, who married his cousin, Sheela, or Julia Macdonald,* with issue—one son, Alexander, progenitor of Glenaladale.
3. Roderick, who died unmarried.

* In the *Clanranald Family History*, p. 107, John Og is said to have been unmarried, and his only son, Alexander, is described as a "natural son, of whom the families of Glenalladale and Borrodale, now [1819] represented by John Macdonald, Esq." We are not at all surprised to find such a statement inserted, for selfish and spiteful reasons, in a work where so many attempts are made to falsify the facts as to the legitimacy of John Moydartach and others. It will surprise no one to find in a work where whole generations are passed over, and others made to live whole generations after they were in their graves—in spite of dates and irrefragable charters, and with the clear intention of blinding the reader as to the *natural* origin of the famous Ian Muidartach—no scruples against bastardising those of legitimate birth. Having made enquiries, among others, of Mr. Alexander Macdonald, wine merchant, Inverness, one of the present representatives of Glenaladale, we have received permission to publish the following letter from the Rev. Donald Macdonald, Glenfinnan. Writing to his brother, he says:—"In reply to your reference to page 107 of the *History of Clanranald*, I have simply to say, what you already know, that the assertion of illegitimacy there stated, is a most malicious untruth, put in for a purpose. The author of it, Macdonald of Dalilea, who was married to an aunt, had a quarrel with our father. By means of his acquaintance with the authors of the book, he gratified his spite, during the publication, by misleading them into *this error*, which he knew at the time to be false, and afterwards confessed openly. When the book appeared in print, he was suspected of it and accused, and afterwards, when my father and he became better friends, he made a clean breast of it. At the same time, he promised my father to have it corrected in the next edition, with a full confession of its incorrectness, but no second edition was ever issued. Such an assertion was never made before nor since by any other ; and it is in direct contradiction to the genealogy of the family. The trick occurred in our time, and we are still living testimonies to his confession of the crime and retraction—that is, though ourselves too young at the time to understand it, we received it afterwards by hearing the above stated and talked over frequently by our father, oldest brother, and sisters, in whose time and vivid recollection it occurred. Mr. Mackenzie then has more than abundant reason for not repeating this error in his forthcoming work, as it is, first, in contradiction to the family genealogy, and, second, the author of it confessed his motive for inventing it." Burke, who accepts the *History* here referred to as his authority throughout, reproduces the error that John Og was unmarried, in several editions.

4. Angus ; and 5, Donald Gorm, who died unmarried.

John married, secondly, in 1555, Penelope, second daughter of Sir Charles Erskine, third son of Alexander, Viscount Fenton, with issue—

6. A daughter, who married John Stewart of Appin.

He died, very advanced in years, in 1584, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XV. ALLAN MACDONALD,

Eighth of Moydart and Clanranald. He took a prominent share in the remarkable career of his distinguished father, and was, at his predecessor's death, nearly fifty years of age. It would have been observed that he is included in the remissions granted in favour of his father, dated respectively 26th of August 1548, 21st May 1565, and 3rd of March 1566. In 1588, he quarrelled with Alexander Macdonald of Keppoch and killed his brother. In consequence a letter under the Privy Seal, dated 10th of May, in the same year, was passed in favour of "John M'Ranald, son and apparand aire to Allane M'Ranald of Easter Leys, his aris and assignees, ane or mar, of the gift of the escheit, &c.; quhilk pertinet to Allane M'Ane Muydart and Angus M'Allane, his sone, in Muydart, &c.; through being of the saids personis ordaurlied denuncit rebellis, and put to the horn for the slauchter of Allane Og M'Allane M'Ane, broder to Alexander M'Rannald of Kippoch, and not underlying the law, &c." For this offence he does not appear to have been ever pardoned, nor does he seem to have obtained any charters from the crown of his father's territories, though apparently he had undisturbed possession of them during his life.

Allan married a daughter of Alastair Crotach Macleod of Harris, widow of James Og, son of Donald Gruamach, fourth of Sleat. Allan's ill-treatment of this lady became the cause of violent feuds between his family and that of the Macleods, which were only terminated by another

marriage between John, Allan's grandson, and Moir, daughter of the famous Rory Mor Macleod of Harris and Dunvegan, knighted by King James VI. in 1613. By his wife (who, after his death, married, as her third husband, Macdonald of Keppoch) Allan had issue—

1. Angus, who died before his father, without issue.
2. Donald, who succeeded to Clanranald.
3. Ranald, who received from his father extensive possessions in Benbecula and Arasaig, and whose descendants on the failure of Donald's male representatives, carried on the succession.
4. John, who obtained a feu charter of the lands of Kinlochmoidart, and from whom is lineally descended, on the mother's side, the present William Roberson-Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart.
5. Margaret, who married Donald, eighth of Glengarry, with issue.
6. Letitia, who married Alexander, second of Glenaladale.

He died in 1593, and was succeeded by his second and eldest surviving son,

XVI. SIR DONALD MACDONALD,

Ninth of Clanranald. Having entered into a marriage alliance with the house of Macdonald of Isla, then at war with the celebrated warrior Lachlan Mor Maclean of Duart, Clanranald joined his father-in-law, and entered the territories of the Macleans of Mull, Tiree, and Coll, which he harried, wasted, and burnt, carrying away a large spoil. Maclean was at the time unable to retaliate, but his opportunity soon came. In the summer of 1595, the Macdonalds decided upon proceeding to Ireland, under Donald Gorm of Sleat, with a large fleet to aid Red Hugh O'Neil, Earl of Tyrone, in his wars with Queen Elizabeth. Duart was ready to oppose them on certain conditions, which Elizabeth was either unable or unwilling at the time to grant. He

therefore disbanded his men, and Macdonald's fleet, consisting of a hundred sail, of which fifty were galleys, and the remainder smaller craft, sailed unmolested, for Ireland. The number of soldiers and mariners who started on this expedition are estimated at about five thousand. "Nine hundred men, however, under the Captain of Clanranald, still remained ; and as they passed Mull had the temerity to land for the night ; running their 'galleys, boats, and birlins' into a little harbour, where they imagined themselves secure. But Maclean, by what Achincross termed a 'bould onset and prattie feit of weir,' took the whole company prisoners, threw the chiefs into irons, sent them to his dungeons in his different castles, appropriated their galleys, and transported the common men to the mainland. Amongst the chief prisoners then taken were the Captain of Clanranald and three of his uncles, the Laird of Knoydart, M'Ian of Ardnamurchan, Donald Gorm's brothers, and others ; and an account of the surprise was immediately transmitted by John Achinross to Nicolson, the English envoy at the Court of James. . . . Elizabeth was delighted with this exploit of Lauchlan Mor ; assured him of her gratitude and friendship " ; and sent him, in the shape of a thousand crowns, what he considered a very substantial proof of her appreciation of his conduct, and what he himself, in a letter to Cecil, characterises as an "honourable token of her favour".* The Captain of Clanranald joined the Macdonalds of Glengarry in their wars against Mackenzie in Kintail, Lochcarron, and Lochalsh, with the details of which the reader is already acquainted. He afterwards marched through Skye to his lands in Uist, when he found Murdoch MacRory Macneil of Barra com-

* Tytler's History of Scotland ; in which we are told that " It is curious to trace Elizabeth's connection with this man [Lauchlan Mor]. The Lord of Duart's confidential servant happened to be a certain shrewd Celt, named John Achinross ; he, in turn, was connected by marriage with Master John Cunningham, a worthy citizen and merchant in Edinburgh. This honest Baillie of the Capital, forming the link between savage and civilised life, corresponded with Sir Robert Bowes ; Bowes with Burghley or Sir Robert Cecil ; and thus Elizabeth, sitting in her closet at Windsor, or Greenwich, moved the strings which assembled or dispersed the chivalry of the Isles. This is no ideal picture, for letters of the actors remain."

mitting outrages and depredations on his lands of South Uist, under pretence that a portion of them belonged to him. They met at North Boisdale, when most of the Barra men were slain. Macneil effected his escape, but Clanranald followed him to Barra, and compelled him to flee for refuge to some of the remoter Islands to the west.

The Captain of Clanranald, like most of the Highland chiefs, became much involved in debt to the crown and neighbouring chiefs for depredations on their lands ; and he is one of the chiefs who, in 1608, met the king's commissioners at Maclean's Castle of Aros, in Mull, and agreed to give security for the payment of his Majesty's rents ; deliver up their castles and strongholds ; give up the feudal privileges hitherto claimed by them ; submit themselves to the laws of the realm ; deliver up their galleys, birlins, and vessels of war to be destroyed ; and send their children south to be brought up and educated under the protection and superintendence of the Privy Council, as became the children of barons and gentlemen of the land. On the 7th of March, 1610, Donald received a supersedure from the crown of all his debts for a period of three years, on the narrative that, having a great number of kinsmen, friends, and dependers, who, for years before had committed spulzies and depredations, and that for the obedience of the laws, he was forced to answer for them ; and various decreets had gone out against him, for great sums of money which it was impossible for him to pay, though his Majesty was satisfied that he had done all he could to do so. Donald Gorm of Sleat, who had meanwhile become superior by gift from the crown of the thirty merk lands of Skirrough, twelve merk lands of Benbecula, and one penny lands of Gartgimines, on the 4th of June, 1610, granted a charter of these lands to the Captain of Clanranald, which was confirmed by the crown on the 20th of July, and sasine was passed upon it on the 5th of October following. On the 24th of July in the same year, he obtained another charter from the crown, in which is narrated the substance of that granted by James V. to his grand-

father, John Moydartach, on the 11th of February, 1531, of the twenty-seven merk lands of Moydart, thirty merk lands of Arasaig, and thirty-one merk lands of Eigg. In addition he now obtained three other merk lands of Moydart, nine merk lands in Eigg, "comprehending Galmisdale, Gruline, the third part of Cleatill, the half of Knockhaltock, and the half of Ballemenoch, extending to thirty merk lands of new extent". He also obtained by this charter the fourteen merk lands of Morar, seven merk lands in Arasaig, twenty-three merk lands of Kindess [south end of Uist], and six merks of Boisdale, all united and incorporated into the free barony of Castletirrim; and the stronghold of Castletirrim was appointed the principal messuage of the barony.

Allan, the eldest son of Ranald Gallda, already referred to (p. 378), as having obtained a charter of legitimation in 1555, and a gift of the non-entry duties of the lands of Moydart and Arasaig, was permitted to retain possession of these for a considerable time. His only son, Angus, also possessed them after him, and claimed them as his own, but Donald dispossessed him and took violent possession. Angus at once commenced an action against Clanranald, who, disdaining it as frivolous and ill-grounded, and contemning the authority of the Sheriff before whom it was brought, decree was pronounced against him on the 6th of October, 1612, when he was denounced a rebel. In the same year Angus MacAllan MacRanald—Angus, the son of Allan, son of Ranald—was actually served heir to his grandfather, Ranald Allanson of Moydart, in the 27 merk lands of Moydart, and the 24 merk lands of Arasaig, of the old extent of £20.* On the 14th of July, 1614, a letter passed the Privy Seal in favour of Sir Alexander Kerr of Oxenham, of the escheat pertaining to him, in consequence of this denunciation; but he, nevertheless, maintained possession. Angus MacRanald shortly afterwards died, and his son, John, and daughter, Elizabeth, again denounced Sir Donald as a rebel, for not finding caution of lawborrows,

* *Origines Parochiales Scotiæ*, Vol. II., p. 203; and *Retours*.

at the instance of their father, and another letter passed the Privy Seal in favour of Sir James Stewart of Killeith, of Sir Donald's escheat ; but all further procedure was stopped by the death of John and his sister soon afterwards.* On the 5th of November, 1611, the king, by letter, under the Privy Seal, disposed to Andrew, Bishop of the Isles, "for the good, true, and thankful service done to His Majestic," all sums owing to him by several great Highland chiefs, among others Donald, Captain of Clanranald. He was still, notwithstanding the charters and other favours received by him from the crown, held responsible for the depredations committed by him in Mull, Tiree, Kintail, and Barra ; but, at last, he became fully reconciled to the king, who granted him a full remission, dated at Greenwich, on the 27th of June, 1613, for all his past offences. On the 26th of July, 1614, Sir Donald Macdonald, of Sleat, acquired the superiority of the lands of Skirrough, Benbecula, and Gartgimines, belonging to Clanranald. In 1615, Clanranald is included in an Act denouncing the Western chiefs as rebels against the Sovereign authority, on which occasion the Earl of Argyll, with a strong force, from the counties of Dumbarton, Ayr, and Renfrew is sent against them. In 1616, he is included in a summons requiring that he should submit to appear annually before the Council, or as often as required, on being summoned to do so, and on such occasions to exhibit two of his kinsmen ; reduce the gentlemen of his household to the number of six ; that he should keep within certain prescribed limits of the residence allotted to him ; that he should farm a portion of his domains ; also plant, cultivate, and encourage his kinsmen to do the same ; that he should not keep more than three tuns of wine for consumption in his house ; that he should not keep more than one large galley, nor an unnecessary number of fire-arms ; and that he should educate his children according to certain conditions imposed. For the execution of these stringent terms he had to grant his personal bond, and the security of personal friends. Donald afterwards

* History of the Family of Clanranald, pp. 115-116.

visited Edinburgh, where, according to the history of the family, he was knighted in May, 1617, at Holyrood House, by James VI.

Sir Donald married Mary, daughter of Angus Macdonald of Isla, with issue :—

1. John, his heir.
2. Ranald ; 3, Alexander ; 4, Donald ; all of whom died without issue.

Sir Donald died in December, 1619, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XVII. JOHN MACDONALD,

Tenth of Clanranald, who, in 1622-23, entered into a contract of fidelity with Donald MacAngus of Glengarry, in which he is described as "John Moydart, captain of Clanranald," and by which they mutually bind and oblige each other, their servants, and tenants, to assist and concur with one another against all mortal enemies. In 1625, he entered into an agreement with Sir Donald Mackay of Strathnaver, by which he resigned in favour of Mackay the superiority of the lands of Arasaig and Moydart, obtaining a feu-charter of them on the 7th of April, in the same year, in his own favour. This charter was confirmed by the crown on the 22nd of February, 1627. On the 1st of August in the latter year, Sir Donald Macdonald of Sleat granted him a precept of *clare constat* of the lands of Skirrough, Benbecula, and Gartgimines, of which Sir Donald, by charter from the crown, obtained the superiority in 1614, while Sir Donald of Clanranald was under attainder, as already stated. On the precept of 1614 infeftment followed on the 1st and 2nd of March, 1629. On the 18th of September, 1627, he was served heir in special to his father in the 21 merk lands of Eigg, which are "ex antiquo quondam Joanni M'Allister avo dict. quondam Domini Donaldi M'Allane, hæredibus suis et assignatis hæreditarie datas concessas et depositas"; and the other lands which had

been erected into the barony of Castletirrim by charter in favour of his father in 1610. On this retour a precept from Chancery was obtained, and infeftment followed on the 3rd of March, 1629. On the 13th of May, 1630, he was served heir in general to Allan, his grandfather, and to his great-grandfather, John Moydartach. Having made up titles, he made an assedation of the lands of Dalilea, Langal, and others, to John Ranaldson, parson of Islandfinnan, in life-rent, after whose death to Allan M'Ranaldson, his brother's son, also in life-rent, and on the death of Allan to his son for a term of nineteen years. Infeftment duly followed. In 1629 John "resigned the lands of Moydart and Arisaig into the hands of Sir Donald M'Donald of Sleat, who had acquired rights from Sir Donald M'Kay to the direct superiority, and they afterwards granted a charter of them to Lord Lorn, in whose person a second intermediate superiority vested; and in this way the family of Argyll were, till lately, in possession of the superiority of a considerable part of the Clanranald estate".* This charter is dated 18th December, 1633, and 1st of April, 1634. On the same date Sir Donald Macdonald of Sleat, with Clanranald's consent, executed a charter of the lands of Skirrough in favour of Lord Lorn, to be held of Sir Donald. About this period the Mackenzies of Kintail appear to have obtained possession of the superiority; for we find that, "in 1633, George Mackenzie was served heir to his brother, Colin, Earl of Seafort, Lord Mackenzie of Kintail, in the 27 mark lands of Moydart and the 24 mark lands of Arrasack".†

John took a prominent part in the wars of Montrose, already described under the FAMILIES of SLEAT and GLENGARRY. Clanranald joined the famous Montrose and General Alexander Macdonald, son of Colla Ciotach, at Inverlochy, in 1645, and took a distinguished part in all the victories of the campaign. Clanranald soon after, his number of troops being small, returned to his own country to raise his followers, when he found the garrison of Min-

* History of the Family, 1819, p. 119.

† Origines Parochiales Scotiæ, vol. ii., p. 203.

garry had been attacked by the Earl of Argyll. He immediately went to its relief, defeated the earl, reinforced the garrison, laid waste the whole of Suinart and Ardnarmurchan, and returned to Castletirrim, where he found General Alexander Macdonald, who had in the meantime heard of the distress of his friends at Mingarry and hastened to their relief. Finding his services unnecessary in consequence of Clanranald's action, he halted at Castletirrim, where he was introduced to Donald, Clanranald's eldest son, "a young man of great resolution and bravery," to whom he gave a command in his army. From thence they proceeded to Arasaig and Moydart, where they were joined by Donald Gorm, first of Scotus, uncle of Glengarry, and raised all the men of Moydart and Glengarry. Proceeding to Lochaber, they were there joined by Donald Glas of Keppoch, with the men of the Braes of Lochaber, the Stewarts of Appin, the Lairds of Glencoe and Glen Nevis, and a considerable body of the Camerons. This body, soon after, met Montrose at Blair-Athol, whither they had marched.

Here a council of war was held, immediately on the arrival of the Highlanders, to fix upon their winter quarters, as the severe weather was fast approaching. Montrose recommended a descent on the Lowlands, but the Highlanders preferred a raid to Argyllshire, to revenge themselves on their enemy, Gillespie Gruamach. Montrose expressed doubt at there being a sufficient supply of food for such an army to pass them over the winter procurable in the county, when Angus MacAlain Duibh, a distinguished soldier and marksman from Glencoe, replied, "There is not a farm, or half a farm, under MacCailein, but what I know every foot of it; and if good water, tight houses, and fat cows will do for you, there is plenty to be had". They immediately marched, the various chiefs acting independently of Montrose to a considerable extent in these cattle-lifting excursions, on their way to Argyll. "John of Moidart and the Clanranald, with some of the Keppoch men, were the most active on these detours from the line of march; and upon one occasion they returned to the camp

with 1000 head of cattle." They were soon marching on Inveraray, where Argyll was, at the time making arrangements for a meeting of his retainers, whom he called together. He had declared that he would rather lose a hundred thousand crowns than that any mortal should know the passes by which an armed force could penetrate his country, even in the middle of summer. The month of December was now far advanced, and, to his utter amazement and terror, the herds and shepherds rushed from the mountain pastures with the astounding intelligence that Montrose and the Highlanders were within a few miles of the Castle of Inveraray. The earl immediately escaped to sea by a fishing boat, leaving his friends and the whole county to the mercy of the enemy. The town of Inveraray was burnt to ashes. The army marched in three divisions, one under Montrose, one under Alexander Macdonald, his Lieut.-General, and the third under Clanranald. "Thus he traversed, by separate routes, the whole district; which was wasted—even as Argyll had wasted Athole and the Braes of Angus, and burnt the 'Bonny house of Airlie'. The clans laid the whole face of the country in ashes, killing all whom they met marching to Inveraray (amounting, it is said, to 895 men-at-arms), sweeping off its flocks and herds from every valley, glen, and mountain that owned the sway of MacCailinmor."* A contemporary writer states that the Highlanders plundered and destroyed wherever they came, and "spared none that were fit to carry arms, and, in particular, they put to the sword all the men whom they met going in arms to the rendezvous appointed by Argyll; nor did they desist till they had driven all the men who were fit for service out of the country, or at least obliged them to retire to lurking holes known to none but themselves. They drove all their cattle, and burnt their villages and cottages to the ground; thus retaliating upon Argyll the treatment he had given to others, he himself being the first who had practised this cruel method of waging war against the innocent country people, by fire and devastation.

* Napier's Life and Times of Montrose, 289-291.

Nor did they deal more gently with the people of Lorn, and the neighbouring parts who acknowledged Argyll's authority." * This expedition must have been of an atrocious character. Another contemporary writer informs us that they burnt and slew over the whole country, "and left no house or hold, except impregnable strengths, unburnt, their corns, goods, and gear, and left not a four-footed beast in his [Argyll's] haill lands; and such as would not drive, they houghed and slew, that they should never make stead".† The Clanranald and Athole men returned home with the booty from Argyll, promising to return to Montrose whenever they were called upon to do so.

We again find them, soon after, on the 2nd of February, 1645, taking a prominent part in the battle of Inverlochy, where, according to the last quoted authority, "the Captain of Clanranald, Maclean, and Glengarie were in the middle," round the Royal Standard, under the immediate command of Montrose himself, who commanded the centre. They took a distinguished share in the battle at Auldearn, victoriously fought on the 9th of May, 1645, where "the brave, hardy Clan Macdonald, and the equally brave and hardy Clanranalds, all fought like true heroes without the least fear of strokes or shot".‡ The Clanranalds, with the other Macdonalds, were at Montrose's last great victory at Kilsyth, where, as usual, they greatly distinguished themselves under the immediate command of their chief, who had just returned from a recruiting expedition in the Highlands, bringing with him 700 Macleans and 500 of his own clan. He was accompanied by his son Donald, already referred to, a youth at this date of only twenty years of age, who greatly distinguished himself throughout the whole campaign. On this occasion Montrose unfortunately stated, in presence of many of his officers, that, though Clanranald had brought a great addition to the camp, he had provided nothing to maintain them, while all the other

* Wishart's Memoirs of Montrose.

† Spalding's History of the Troubles in Scotland, vol. ii., p. 269—1702 Ed.

‡ Red Book of Clanranald.

clans had. Clanranald indignantly replied that the swords of his men could supply them with everything necessary for their maintenance at all times and in any circumstances. This did not quite satisfy Montrose, and dispute would have followed had not Alexander Macdonald (MacColla) intervened, stating that he knew the Clanranald men well, and would become personally responsible that by next evening they would bring in as much provender as any of the other clans. He then turned to young Clanranald, directing him to get his men ready by themselves, and to prepare for a foray next morning. Donald was not slow in executing these orders. He marched his men to the lands of the Earl Marischall, and, though they had been pretty well wasted on previous occasions, "he brought back with him a booty, not only surpassing that furnished by any other, but one that served the whole army for months. This brave action pleased Montrose, and induced him to apologise for his hasty expression." The author of the Red Book informs us that "Young Donald and his men brought more *creachs* to the camp than any others. Many of the Highlanders, when sent to drive a prey, drove it on to their own countries without asking the general's leave. John of Moidart would allow none of his men to leave him ; but there was another reason for this, namely, that it was not easy for the men from the Islands to drive their prey home from the low country ; hence the raising of creachs fell to their share all summer. Young Donald took a large prey from the Lord Marischall's country, and from the Mearns and Angus ; an old man, whom they met there, told them that the Mearns had not been used so since Donald of the Isles *creached*, the year he fought the battle of Harlaw." The same chronicler, after describing various preliminaries of the battle, states that "Montrose held a Council of War, and referred it to his whole army whether to fight or retreat. All declared they would rather fight than retreat. Yet the troops had been long without food. Montrose sent his trumpet with a challenge, at which the great army gave a shout, and drew out in

order of battle, 3,000 pikemen and 11,000 in battalions behind these, and you may think it was hard work for our small numbers to face. The fight was hard. The Highlanders had 4000 foot and 500 horses ; and they fixed their shirts between their legs. The horsemen had white shirts over their armour. We advanced gallantly against a battery of great guns. Battle commenced by an excellent regiment of Scotch and Irish good marksmen, Major Lauchlin and Mac Coll directing and exhorting them. Donald, son of the Captain of Clanranald, and Donald MacEachain Oig Maclean, strove who should first engage. Donald and his men, and Patrick Ckoch Macgregor and his men, in one regiment—Clanranald gave the assault, and young Donald was the first man who leaped the intrenchments, and his people after him. The enemy was completely routed." Napier explains as to the "white shirts above their armour," that it would rather seem that Montrose had ordered them to disencumber themselves of their heavy armour that was over their shirts, for they had to charge up hill in the middle of a hot August.

In the retreat from Perth, leading up to the battle of Kilsyth, we are told that "Donald, the son of the Captain of Clanranald, had the honour of bringing up the rear, which was under the immediate command of Sir Alexander Macdonald. Many individual feats of bravery were performed, and those of young Donald were not the least conspicuous. At one time, by a gallant manœuvre, he cut off the entire advance of the enemy ; at another time he opposed his chosen band against ten times their number, who obstinately defended a ford, and was successful." At the battle of Kilsyth, a slight difference arose between Donald and Maclean as to who should assume chief command of their immediate followers. It is thus related in the Clanranald Family History :—"The action commenced by a fire of cannon and musketry from the Covenanters, and the attack by the king's forces, with a regiment of Irish commanded by Major Macdonald, and directed by Sir Alexander Macdonald. The gallant regiment com-

manded by Donald, son of the Captain of Clanranald, and by Maclean, were ordered to their relief. An unfortunate difference had existed between these two as to precedence. Each maintained that he was entitled to command the other ; on this occasion Maclean desired Donald to place himself under his command. From Donald's situation he was rather in the rear, but, regardless of disputes of this kind, he pushed through Maclean's regiment with his men, and was himself the first who gained the trenches of the enemy. His men followed and drove all before them, striking terror wherever they went. By this bold and decisive action the battle of Kilsyth was in a great measure gained. It was fought on the 14th of August, 1645. The Covenanters lost nearly 4000 men, while the loss of Montrose did not amount to 100. After the battle of Kilsyth, Montrose marched to Hamilton ; and nearly the whole of Scotland submitted to him. While there the Captain of Clanranald and his son retired to their own country exhausted by the many engagements they had been in." At the same time all the Western Highlanders left Montrose, and marched westward under their brilliant name-sake, Alexander Macdonald, son of Colla Ciotach, now Captain-General of the whole army, immediately next in rank to Montrose himself, and a warrior-knight of great renown. From that day, the moment on which he lost the active support of the Highlanders in the field, the star of the great Montrose began to wane, and the end is already known, to every schoolboy ; but the Clanranald continued as true to him in his misfortunes as they had ever been in the days of his great victories.

Wishart thus describes the departure of the Highlanders :—Many of them, "being loaded with spoil, deserted privately, and soon after returned to their own country ; their officers and leaders also openly demanded liberty to go home for a short time. They pretended that, as the Covenanters had at that time no army within the kingdom, there was the less occasion for their presence ; and as their corn had been all destroyed and their houses burnt by

the enemy, there was an absolute necessity for their going home, tho' but for a few weeks, in order to repair their habitations, and lay up some winter provisions for their wives and families ; therefore they earnestly begged a short furlough ; and, as an inducement to obtain it, they solemnly promised to return in less than forty days in greater strength and numbers. Montrose, perceiving that they were fully resolved to leave him, and that it was not in his power to detain them, as they were all volunteers, and served without pay, thought it most expedient to dismiss them with a good grace, in order to ingratiate himself the more with them, and encourage them to return. He praised the bravery of the soldiers, and in the king's name returned his thanks to the officers for their services ; and entreated them to be as expeditious in settling their domestic affairs as possible, so that they might return against the appointed day, under the conduct of Alexander Macdonald, whom, at his own earnest desire, he appointed their captain. Macdonald, in a formal oration, returned thanks in all their names to the Lord-Governor for his great condescension and gave his solemn promise as a security for their speedy return. However he had secretly resolved not to return, and actually never after saw Montrose. He carried off with him above three thousand Highlanders, all very brave men, and the flower of the army ; and not satisfied with these, he privately seduced a hundred and twenty of the very best of the Irish, and carried them along with him also as a life-guard.*

After the army was disbanded in May, 1645, and peace concluded with the Scottish army at Newark, the Committee of Estates instructed General Middleton to grant remission on certain conditions to those who still held out. Among them was Clanranald, who refused to accept the terms offered, but retired sullenly to his stronghold of Castletirrim, where, although General Leslie and the Marquis of Argyll over-ran and wasted the greater portion of the adjoining country, he was left undisturbed. Here he

* *Memoirs of Montrose*, pp. 137-138.

for a time remained "firmly attached to his Sovereign, whose son he had afterwards the happiness to see restored to the throne of his ancestors". When the Earl of Antrim, in October, 1646, proposed a new levy by the Royalist leaders for the rescue of the king, Clanranald pledged himself to raise 1300 men, of the proposed army of 30,000.*

On the 15th of August, 1645, Clanranald entered into a bond of fidelity with Allan MacAlastair, Laird of Morar, who bound and obliged himself, his heirs and successors, to be bondsman and true servant to Clanranald, "fiar of Moydart," and to obey any of his heirs and successors, while Clanranald and his son, on the other hand, bound and obliged themselves and their heirs and successors "to stand be him in any where he will cause do, as their chief should do". Shortly after the landing of Charles II. at Garmouth, in Moray, on the 23rd of June, 1650, John went and paid his respects to him, after which he retired to his Island possessions in Uist, where he continued to reside for the remainder of his life.

He married Moir, or Marion, daughter of Sir Roderick Macleod of Macleod, known as "Ruari Mor," and by this alliance terminated a feud which arose out of a previous marriage, and long existed between the two families. By her he had issue—

1. Donald, his heir.
2. Moir, or Marion, who married Lauchlan Maclean, eighth of Coll.
3. Catharine, who married Macneill of Barra.
4. Anne, who married Ranald Macdonald, second of Benbecula, whose son Donald, afterwards, on the failure of John's male issue, succeeded as head of the house of Clanranald.

He died in 1670, at a very advanced age, in the Island of Eriska, South Uist, and was buried at Tomar, when he was succeeded by his only son,

* Macdonells of Antrim, p. 274.

XVIII. DONALD MACDONALD,

Eleventh of Clanranald, with whom the reader is already acquainted, he having taken, during his father's life, a prominent and distinguished share in the wars of Montrose. After the disastrous battle of Philipshaugh, Montrose returned to the north. The Earl of Antrim soon after landed at Kintyre, where he met Montrose. Many of the clans, among others the Clanranald, agreed to join him, but the king's order to disband the army put an end to further proceedings at the time. Donald was instructed by his father to proceed to Isla, and dispossess the Campbells. He was at the same time invited by the Earl of Antrim to join him in assisting the troops of King Charles in Ireland; whereupon, Donald, with 300 men, embarked at Uist in 1648; proceeded through the Sound of Mull to Colonsay, and thence to the Sound of Isla, where he captured a large vessel belonging to the Estates of Scotland, laden with barley. He then proceeded to Ireland, and quartered his men at Kilkenny, where he met Glengarry and a large body of Highlanders, who afterwards took part in several engagements, including the capture of Belfast, Knockfergus, Coleraine, and Londonderry. In all these proceedings Donald of Clanranald, who held high rank in the Highland regiment, took a distinguished share. He remained with the king's army until its final overthrow, when both Clanranald and Glengarry were taken prisoners and sent to Kilkenny. Here they were kept in durance for a considerable time. They, however, ultimately secured their liberty through the influence and intercession of the Duchess of Buckingham, who married, as her second husband, the Earl of Antrim, after which they returned to the Highlands; Clanranald, in due course, landing safely in Uist.

Soon after the death of his father he made up titles to the property, but the part he and his family took in the recent wars involved him deeply in debt, in consequence of which he was obliged for the purpose of raising money, to

grant a wadset of Moydart and Arasaig to Sir James Macdonald, for 4000 merks. It was, however, afterwards redeemed. On the 9th of January, 1674, he passed a signature of resignation and confirmation of the lands of Arasaig, Moydart, Skirrough, Benbecula, and the Island of Eigg, on which a charter afterwards followed. In April, 1684, he obtained, from the Bishop of Lismore, a charter of the Island of Canna, in the signature to which he designated himself "Donald Macdonald of Moydart, Captain and Chief of ye family of Clanranald". In the charter itself he is described as "*Capitano seu principi familiæ de Clanranald*".

He married his cousin, Moir, or Marion, daughter of John Macleod, XIV. of Macleod, and sister of Rodrick Macleod, XV., and of John Macleod, XVI. of Macleod, all three of whom followed each other in succession as chiefs of Macleod. By her he had issue—

1. John, who died in infancy.
2. Allan, who succeeded his father as XII. of the family.
3. Ranald, who succeeded his brother Allan as XIII. chief.
4. Margaret; married Donald Macdonald, third of Benbecula, who afterwards became head of the clan, and succeeded to the estates as XIV. of Clanranald and nearest male heir on the death of Ranald.

5 and 6. Marion and Janet, both of whom died without issue.

Donald died in 1686 in the Island of Canna, and was buried at Tomar. He was succeeded by his second and eldest surviving son,

XIX. ALLAN MACDONALD,

Twelfth of Clanranald, who was only about sixteen years of age when his father died. He was placed under the tutorship of his brother-in-law, Donald Macdonald of Benbecula,

who was at the time nearest male-heir to Clanranald, after Allan himself and his brother Ranald. Benbecula, afterwards known as Tutor of Clanranald, spared no pains in the education of his ward, whose natural sympathies in favour of the Stuarts were strengthened by the traditions of his house and the personal influence of Benbecula, himself a firm supporter of the Stuart succession and a young man otherwise of great ability and judgment. Both tutor and ward came to meet Viscount Dundee when, in May, 1689, he joined Macdonald of Keppoch at Inverness, and there offered their services. These being joyfully accepted, they returned home and raised their vassals. Dundee proceeded to Lochaber with Keppoch, where he was joined by Sir Donald Macdonald of Sleat and his eldest son, with 500 Skye Macdonalds. Proceeding from thence to meet General Mackay at Blair-Athol, he was joined on the way by Clanranald, by his tutor, and a body of 700 men. These were formed into a regiment under the tutor's command, with the rank of Colonel. They took a leading part in the victory of Killiecrankie, in which "the Highlanders threw away their plaids, haversacks, and all other utensils, and marched resolutely and deliberately in their shirts and doublets, with their fusils, targets, and pistols ready, down the hill on the enemy, and received Mackay's third fire before they pierced his line, in which many of the Highland army fell, particularly Lord Viscount Dundee, their General, the terror of the Whigs, the supporter of King James, and the glory of his country. Then the Highlanders fired, threw down their fusils, rushed in upon the enemy with sword, target, and pistol, who did not maintain their ground two minutes after the Highlanders were amongst them; and I dare be bold to say there scarce ever were such strokes given in Europe as were given that day by the Highlanders. Many of General Mackay's officers and soldiers were cut down through the skull and neck to the very breasts; others had skulls cut off above their ears like night-caps; some soldiers had both their bodies and cross-belts cut through at a blow; picks and small swords

were cut like willows." * Other particulars of this campaign have been already given under SLEAT and GLENGARRY [pp. 220-222 and 344-346], and are well known to the reader.

The Proclamation issued by the government, offering protection in their persons and property to all who had been in arms, if they would surrender and take the oath of allegiance, before the 1st of January, 1692, was spurned by Clanranald, who proceeded, with his brother Ranald, to France, where he completed his education, under the eye of James VII., and became one of the most accomplished gentlemen of his age. Having resided for some time at the Court of St. Germain, he obtained a commission in the French service under the Duke of Berwick, and soon acquired a distinguished reputation as a brave and gallant officer. When peace was restored he returned to St. Germain, and was glad to learn that, through the influence of his tutor, Donald Macdonald of Benbecula, and other influential friends in Scotland, his estates had been preserved to him.

While in France Clanranald made the acquaintance of Penelope, a daughter of Colonel Mackenzie, who had been Governor of Tangiers under Charles II. "This young lady was not more distinguished by the beauty of her person than by the brilliancy of her wit and sweetness of temper. She was universally admired at a Court famed for the beauty of its women, and her prudence added not a little to the lustre of her charms. With such a person, possessing such a mind, it cannot be doubted that she had various offers of marriage, but she preferred Clanranald to all others, and satisfied that, with such a man, happiness could be obtained anywhere, she at once agreed to marry and accompanying him to his native hills."† They soon returned to Scotland, and arrived safely in South Uist, where, though remote from society, "yet so completely did their tempers accord with each other, that their uniform hospitality, polite attention, and affable manners drew

* *Memoirs of Dundee*, by an Officer in the Army, 1714, pp. 19-20.

† *History of the Family*, p. 148.

company from all parts of the kingdom, and a little Court, well befitting that of a chief, was actually formed," which was favourably spoken of in all classes of society throughout the country.

On his return to Uist, Clanranald made up titles to his estates, as his father's heir, by precept, dated 28th of July, 1704, and was infested thereon in November and December, 1706.

It is generally believed that he was in correspondence with the Court of St. Germain's before the rising of 1715, for no sooner had the Earl of Mar raised his standard at Braemar than Clanranald sailed from Uist with his followers, and summoned his vassals of Moydart, Arasaig, and the small isles. He is among the chiefs charged to appear in Edinburgh to give security for his good behaviour, by a certain day, and refusing, he was denounced, with other leaders of the clans, a rebel against the crown. His reply was at once to declare openly for the Chevalier, in whose service he was appointed Colonel. He received orders to march into Argyllshire to harass the Earl and prevent the Campbells and other neighbouring clans from joining the government forces; and while on his way he was joined at Fort-William by a body of Camerons and Macleans, with whom he attempted to surprise the garrison at Inverlochy. In this he failed, but on the 17th of September he captured two redoubts, which, however, he was unable to retain for want of artillery. On the 6th of October he arrived at Strathfillan with about 700 of his own clan, and was joined by Glengarry and several other chiefs with a considerable following, the army on the 16th numbering some 2400 men, with whom on the following day he marched back in the direction of Inveraray, arriving there on the 19th. The town was defended by a large body of Campbells, who refused a demand to surrender, made in writing, by Clanranald and Glengarry; but Sir Duncan and Colonel Campbell came out to meet them next morning on a rising ground between the town and the invaders' camp, when the two Macdonald chiefs stated that

the Earl of Mar's orders were to respect the country if they disbanded their men, but that, if they kept in arms, it was to be laid waste. Next morning a message was received, Lord Isla (the Earl's brother), who was in command, declining to treat with any one in arms against the government. The Macdonalds immediately proceeded to waste Kintyre and the Earl's lands in the district, after which they returned to Strathfillan. This raid kept many of the Campbells at home to protect their property and friends, and Clanranald compelled many others to pledge themselves not to move out of the district. This proved of great advantage to Mar. On the 3d of November the camp was broken up, and the whole body marched by Castle Drummond to Perth, where they joined the main army, under the Earl of Mar; and about the same time, Sir Donald Macdonald, Seaforth, the Chisholm, and other Highlanders, made their appearance. On the 9th a council of war was called, at which it was decided to march on Dunblane. The history of this march and the battle of Sheriffmuir are sufficiently well known. All the Macdonalds behaved with their wonted bravery and valour, and no one more so than the gallant Chief of Clanranald, who fell mortally wounded—"a man universally esteemed and respected by foe as well as friend, and whose memory is still cherished in the Highlands with the utmost fondness". Even Patten, the renegade author of "The History of the Rebellion," after stating that the Captain of Clanranald, with 1000 men, all with their chief, were against the government and in the rebellion, says:—"This clan did act the part of men that are resolute and brave, under the command of their chief, who, for his good parts and genteel accomplishments, was looked upon as the most gallant and generous young gentleman among the clans; maintaining a splendid equipage; keeping a just deference to the people of all sorts; void of pride or ill-humour. He performed the part of one that knew the part of a complete soldier; but a fatal bullet from the king's forces, through the body, disabled him, but did not daunt him; so finding a necessity of yielding to the fate of his wound, he withdrew,

and told he could do no more ; only his well-wishes attended his king and his country. He was lamented by both parties that knew him." It was on this melancholy occasion that Glengarry exclaimed to those who were disposed to mourn over the fallen hero, " Let us have revenge to-day : mourning to-morrow "—a suggestion which was instantly acted upon with terrible effect.

As already stated, he married Penelope, daughter of Colonel Mackenzie, Governor of Tangiers, without issue. He was interred at Inverpethry, in the burying-place of the noble family of Perth, when he was succeeded by his only brother,

XX. RANALD MACDONALD,

Thirteenth of Clanranald. During the rebellion of 1715 he was in France. When the news of his brother's death at Sheriffmuir reached him, he determined to set off for the Highlands, but before he could start information arrived that the rebellion was suppressed. He therefore decided to remain until he could hear further particulars from his friends at home. Intelligence soon came that he was among those who had been attainted, and that steps were being taken to deprive him of the family estates. He delayed coming home ; but an excellent friend of the family, Alexander Mackenzie, Principal Clerk of Session in Edinburgh, interested himself in Ranald's behalf, purchased large debts which had been accumulated by the late chief and by Ranald himself, mainly for prosecution of the Stuart cause, and got them all vested in his own person. He then raised an action of adjudication in the Court of Session against all the Clanranald estates, for the accumulated sum of £95,000 Scots, and obtained a decree in his own favour, all with the view of handing the property over to the representative of the family so soon as a pardon could be procured or the attainder removed. Ranald, however, who was never married, died at St. Germain's in 1725, before a pardon

could be procured or the estates conveyed to him. Thus the male line of Sir Donald Macdonald, ninth of Clanranald, became extinct, and the dignity and succession reverted to the nearest male heir of Ranald Macdonald, immediate younger brother of Sir Donald last named, as follows :—

RANALD MACDONALD, second son of Allan, eighth of Clanranald, and immediate younger brother of Sir Donald, ninth of Clanranald, by his wife, a daughter of Macleod of Macleod, received from his father, Allan, the lands of Barrow in Benbecula, Gartgimines, Baile-nan-Cailleach, Baile-finlay, Bailemeanach, Uachdar, Benbecula (called the two Airds), Knockworlane, and part of Machar-meanach ; also the lands of Ardness, Lochyilt, and Essan in Arasaig. Afterwards, John Macdonald, tenth of Clanranald, granted to this Ranald and to his son, Ranald Og, a feu-charter, dated 12th of April, 1625, for infefting themselves in these lands, and infeftment followed in favour of the elder Ranald, recorded at the Chancery of Ross on the 21st of June following. These deeds are afterwards confirmed by the superior, the Earl of Argyll, on the 14th of March, 1633.

Ranald, son of Allan, ninth chief, and immediate younger brother of Sir Donald, ninth of Clanranald, married, first, Maria, daughter of Archibald Macdonald, brother of Donald Gorm Mor, seventh, and sister of Sir Donald Macdonald, eighth baron and first baronet of Sleat. By this lady (who was forcibly seized and ravished by Sir Lauchlan Mackinnon of Strathardale, and for which act he was afterwards forfeited in 1722) Ranald had no issue. He married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of Angus Macdonald of Dunyveg, with issue—

1. Ranald, designed “Ranald Og,” to distinguish him from his father.

2. Angus Og, so called to distinguish him from his uncle, Angus of Clanranald. From Angus Og descended the families of Dalilea and Milton.

Ranald was succeeded in the lands of Benbecula and others above mentioned by his eldest son,

RANALD OG MACDONALD, who had some difference with the chief of Clanranald about the payment of his feu-duties and services. This landed him in an action in the Court of Session, where judgment went against him. They soon, however, arranged matters, and became reconciled. On the 7th of October, 1652, he was infeft as fiar upon his father's charter of 1625, and the infeftment is duly registered in the Chancery of Ross. On the 16th of December, 1655, he obtained from John Macdonald, tenth of Clanranald, a discharge of all feu-duties and services; and on the 25th of March, 1675, he entered into an agreement with Donald, eleventh of Clanranald, by which his lands were to be held direct from the superior, the Earl of Argyll; but this arrangement was afterwards departed from before it was finally ratified.

Ranald married, first, a daughter of Macneil of Barra, by whom he had issue—

1. Donald, who succeeded, as fourteenth of Clanranald, on the death, without issue, of Ranald, thirteenth chief, and of whom presently.

Ranald married, secondly, in 1653, Anne (or Agnes) Macdonald, daughter of John Macdonald, tenth of Clanranald,* with issue—

2. James, to whom his father gave the lands of Belfinlay, Ardbeg, Ardmore, and others. This James had a son, Allan of Belfinlay, who also had a son, Allan of Belfinlay, who married Jane, eldest daughter of Lachlan Mackinnon of Corry, the entertainer of Pennant and Dr. Johnson, with issue—Allan, a Major in the 55th Regiment, who married Flora, daughter of Peter Nicolson of Ardmore, with issue—Captain Allan Macdonald, now of Waternish, Isle of Skye, and others.

* There is a dispensation, "dated at Ellan Raald, the 8th of June, 1653," granted for this marriage by "Dominicus Dingin," under authority of a commission from the Pope, "to dispensate in such business," written on the 10th of December, 1651. The parties are described as "in the second and third degree of consanguinity," whereas all marriages "contracted within the fourth degree, inclusively, are, by the universal Church of God, prohibited and declared of no force or value without a special dispensation from the said Church".

3. Donald Og, who died without issue.

4. Moir, or Marion.

On the death of Ranald, thirteenth of Clanranald, in 1725, in France, he was succeeded by his cousin,

XXII. DONALD MACDONALD,

Third of Benbecula, as fourteenth of Clanranald, tutor of Allan—the hero of Killiecrankie and Sheriffmuir. We have already noticed the prominent share which he took in the military annals of the nation during the wars of Dundee. After Killiecrankie he returned to his island home in Benbecula, and took no part in the Rebellion of 1715. Donald, eleventh of Clanranald, granted him a charter of nova-damus of all his lands, dated 16th of March, 1680. A considerable sum of money had been lodged with Alexander Mackenzie, Principal Clerk of Session, Edinburgh, with the view of procuring a pardon for Ranald, the late chief, and purchasing and conveying the estates to him. This money was obtained by Mrs. Penelope Macdonald, widow of Allan killed at Sheriffmuir, whose attachment to the clan and fond recollection of her distinguished husband cannot be better expressed than in the words of the disposition by which Mr. Mackenzie afterwards conveyed the estates to Donald by her instructions. After narrating the debts, the document proceeds:—"Seeing it was at the earnest desire and request of Mrs. Penelope Mackenzie, Dowager of the deceased Allan Macdonald of Moydart, Captain of Clanranald, that I did purchase the several debts above narrated, affecting the estate of Moydart, and thereupon obtained a decree and charter of abjudication in my favour; and that it hath all along been in her view, as it was still her constant care, from the tender regard which she bore to the memory of her said deceased husband, to have the estate of Moydart settled upon, and conveyed to, the said Donald, elder of Benbecula, who (by the failure of the said Allan Mac-

donald, and of Ranald Macdonald, late of Moydart, both now deceased, without heirs-male lawfully procreate of their, or either of their bodies) is now the nearest and lawful heir-male of the family of Moydart, and the undoubted chief and Captain of Clanranald." For these reasons Mr. Mackenzie, by this disposition, conveyed over the whole estates to Donald in life-rent; after him to Ranald, his son, in life-rent; and thereafter, in fee, to Ranald, grandson of Donald, who afterwards succeeded in due course as fifteenth chief of the family, and who became so well known, during his father's life-time, in connection with Prince Charles, Flora Macdonald, and the Rebellion of 1745. The disposition is dated 5th of December, 1726, and infestment followed thereon on 28th of September, and 7th, 13th, 17th, 18th, and 19th of October, 1727.

Donald married, first, Margaret, eldest and only surviving daughter of Donald, eleventh, and sister of Allan and Ranald, respectively twelfth and thirteenth of Clanranald; and by this marriage he became heir to his brother-in-law, through his wife, as well as heir-male of the family, on the death, in 1725, of Allan, twelfth chief. By this lady he had an only son—

1. Ranald, his heir.

He married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of George Mackenzie of Kildun, by whom he had—

2. Alexander, who obtained the estate and became progenitor of the Macdonalds of Boisdale.

3. Ann, who married John, second son of Lachlan Mackinnon of Strathardale.

He died in 1730, and was succeeded by his son,

XXIII. RANALD MACDONALD,

Fifteenth of Clanranald, who, born in 1692, was in the 39th year of his age. He refused to take any part in the Rebellion of 1745, though earnestly pressed to do so

by Prince Charles, who called upon him immediately on his first arrival in the Long Island. He, however, offered no resistance to his son to join in that unfortunate enterprise ; indeed, once the Prince did embark he extended to him every support and encouragement in his power. The particulars of his life are so well known that it is quite unnecessary to go into lengthy details, but we may quote Home's interesting account of the arrival of the Prince in South Uist, his visit to, and reception by, Clanranald. After describing the voyage and arrival of the *Doutelle* with his Royal Highness on board, Home proceeds to say that "she came to an anchor between South Uist and Eriska, which is the largest of a cluster of small rocky islands that lie off South Uist. Charles immediately went ashore on Eriska. His attendants giving out that he was a young Irish priest, conducted him to the house of the tacksman, who rented all the small island ; of him they learned that Clanranald and his brother Boisdale were upon the Island of South Uist ; that young Clanranald was at Moydart, upon the mainland. A messenger was immediately despatched to Boisdale, who is said to have had great influence with his brother. Charles staid all night on the Island of Eriska, and in the morning returned to his ship. Boisdale came aboard soon after. Charles proposed that he should go with him to the mainland ; assist in engaging his nephew to take arms, and then as his ambassador to Sir Alexander Macdonald and Macleod. To every one of these proposals Boisdale gave a flat negative, declaring that he would do his utmost to prevent his brother and his nephew from engaging in so desperate an enterprise, assuring Charles that it was needless to send anybody to Skye ; for that he had seen Sir Alexander Macdonald and Macleod very lately, and was desired by them to acquaint him (if he should come to South Uist, in his way to the Highlands), that they were determined not to join him, unless he brought over with him a body of regular troops. Charles replied in the best manner he could, and, ordering the ship to be unmoored, carried

Boisdale (whose boat hung at the stern) several miles outward to the mainland, pressing him to relent, and give a better answer. Boisdale was inexorable, and, getting into his boat, left Charles to pursue his course, which he did, directly for the coast of Scotland, and, coming to an anchor in the bay of Lochnanuagh, between Moydart and Arasaig, sent a boat ashore with a letter to young Clanranald." *

Ranald married Margaret, daughter of William Macleod of Bernera, by whom he had issue—

1. Ranald, his heir.
 2. Donald, an officer in the British army, who greatly distinguished himself, and was killed with General Wolfe before Quebec.
 3. Margaret, who died unmarried.
- He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XXIV. RANALD MACDONALD,

Sixteenth of Clanranald, who was, with Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart and his brother, and young Glenaladale, the first to join the Prince in 1745. We cannot do better than continue the account from Home of how young Clanranald finally consented to join His Royal Highness. He proceeds, continuing our previous quotation :—" In a very little time, Clanranald, with his relative Kinlochmoidart, came aboard the *Doutelle*. Charles, almost reduced to despair in his interview with Boisdale, addressed the two Highlanders with great emotion, and, summing his arguments for taking arms, conjured them to assist their Prince, their countryman, in his utmost need. Clanranald and his friend, though well inclined to the cause, positively refused, and told him (one after the other) that to take up arms without concert or support, was to pull down certain destruction on their own heads. Charles persisted, argued, and implored. During this conversation, the parties walked back-

* History of the Rebellion.

wards and forwards upon the deck ; a Highlander stood near them, armed at all points, as was the fashion of the country. He was a younger brother of Kinlochmoidart, and had come off to the ship to inquire for news, not knowing who was on board. When he gathered from their discourse that the stranger was the Prince of Wales ; when he heard his chief and his brother refuse to take arms with their Prince, his colour went and came, his eyes sparkled, he shifted his place, and grasped his sword. Charles observed his demeanour, and, turning briskly towards him, called out, 'Will you not assist me?' 'I will, I will,' said Ranald, 'though no other man in the Highlands should draw a sword ; I am ready to die for you.' Charles, with a profusion of thanks and acknowledgments, extolled his champion to the skies, saying he only wished that all the Highlanders were like him." Without further deliberation the two Macdonalds declared that they also would join, and use their utmost endeavours to engage their countrymen to take arms. Immediately Charles, with his company, went ashore, and was conducted to Borrodale, a farm which belonged to the estate of Clanranald. Having once decided to join, he proceeded at once to raise his vassals, and command those of Arasaig and Moydart to attend him, and bring their arms. These amounted to about 250 men. A list of their names and arms is still preserved.* The standard being, a few days after, raised at Glenfinnan, they proceeded to Perth, from whence Clanranald, at the head of 500 men, was despatched to Dundee, where he arrived on the 7th of September, and next day, Sunday the 8th, proclaimed James VIII. as King. He then threw open the prison, took possession of all the public arms and ammunition he could find, and allowed all the prisoners their liberty. On the following day he searched several private houses for arms, and in all cases where he found any, he took possession and gave a receipt for them. On the 10th, by special command, he returned and joined the Prince at Perth. From that day he took a distinguished

* Printed in the Appendix to the Clanranald Family History.

part, at the head of his men, in all the proceedings of the Highland army; at Prestonpans, Gladsmuir, where the Clanranald, with their chief, was placed, as a distinct mark of honour, on the right of the front line; in the march to England and retreat to Scotland, and in the final and disastrous engagement with the king's troops on Culloden Moor. An eye-witness at Duddingston relates an incident which indicates his position and lofty bearing. "One day young Clanranald was conversing with the Young Pretender with his head covered, and Major Macdonald (Glenaladale) standing behind Clanranald uncovered." He was wounded in the head at Culloden, but managed to escape to his grandmother's house in Inverness, after which he proceeded with his men to Moydart, where he remained in concealment for a considerable period. The king's troops soon followed him, and on one occasion he escaped capture only by a miracle. A mean, base countryman, bribed by the enemy's officers, pointed out his hiding-place, on the side of a steep hill; but hearing them approach he threw himself down the precipice at the risk of being dashed to pieces on the rocks, and marvellously escaped, though so near as to hear one of the soldiers saying, "the nest is warm, but the bird is flown". A few days after three French ships of war arrived in Loch-nan-uagh, which were placed under Clanranald's command as Commodore, a commission in his favour as such having been brought from France in one of them. Here Clanranald again met the Prince, and strongly recommended him to distribute a sum of forty thousand pounds, brought from France for his use by these ships, among the more necessitous of those who had suffered so much in his cause, and were now without houses, food, or shelter; the whole country having been given to the flames, and all their cattle driven away by the king's troops.

During the whole time Prince Charles was in hiding in the Long Island, Clanranald remained concealed in Moydart, waiting an opportunity to remove to some other part of the country, from which he could effect his escape to the

Continent. This he ultimately managed in spite of the attempts of the government to capture him. He succeeded in finding his way to Brahan Castle, the seat of the Seaforth, where he met a daughter of Basil Hamilton, and sister of the Earl of Selkirk, whom he had engaged to marry some time before. She was a relation of his own, her mother being a sister of Ranald's grandmother. The marriage was celebrated in presence of Lady Fortrose, her husband, Viscount Fortrose, who had his forfeited estates but not the titles restored to him some time previously, being from home, and supposed to know nothing of his interesting visitors; for he kept out of the Rebellion, and was, so far, on friendly terms with the government. Leaving Brahan Castle, Clanranald and his lady proceeded to Cromarty, where they embarked on board a ship bound for London under the names of Mr. and Mrs. Black. They arrived at their destination safely and unmolested, and soon after effected their escape to Paris. Here, finding it necessary to procure some means of subsistence, he endeavoured to obtain an introduction to those in power in France. Prince Charles shortly after came to Paris, and Clanranald requested his Royal Highness to introduce him to Louis XV., "to whom the Prince declared that he was the only person who had served him without fee or reward. He soon after got some military employment from the Court of France, and continued so employed until he became acquainted with Marshal Saxe, who appointed him his aide-de-camp; and he remained for several years in that capacity, until the marshal's death, with the official notification of which to the king he was charged, and delivered to his majesty, at a public levee, when the king seemed so affected that he shed tears, and said to the company around him that he had lost his right arm. During this time his lady had become pregnant, and returned to Britain for the purpose of being delivered, and naturalising the child. She went to reside with her grandmother, the widow of Lord Basil Hamilton, at Edinburgh, in whose house she was delivered of a son, and died a few

days afterwards. Many of the chiefs who were engaged in the unfortunate Rebellion, refusing to deliver themselves up, a bill of attainder was brought against them, which received the Royal assent on the 4th of June, 1746. In this bill was included the names of *Donald* Macdonald, younger of Clanranald, Donald Macdonald of Lochgarry, Alexander Macdonald of Keppoch, Archibald Macdonald of Barrisdale, Alexander Macdonald of Glencoe, and others. Many suffered the penalty of the law, and, amongst others, Kinlochmoidart. He was executed at Carlisle on the 18th of October. As to Clanranald, by mistake he was named *Donald* instead of *Ranald* in the act of attainder passed against him. His friends took advantage of this, and, after some years' delay, he succeeded in recovering his estates, to which he retired, and became a steady and loyal subject of the king. It is pretty well known that of all those who joined Prince Charles, none was more devoted to him than young Clanranald, or acted more from less interested motives. He uniformly refused all pecuniary reward, maintained his own troops, and, it is said, for this truly noble conduct, the Prince signified his intention of conferring on him the dignity of a peer of the realm, by the title of Earl of Clanranald."*

All the transactions to which we have referred took place during the life of his father, who, being an old man even at the close of the Rebellion, a few years later, on the 28th of November, 1753, quite unable to attend to any business, he renounced the life-rent of the estates in favour of his son Ranald, by whose energy and business habits the debts of the property were soon paid. For the rest of his days Ranald lived quietly and unostentatiously on his property.

He married, first, Mary, daughter of Basil Hamilton, eventually Earl of Selkirk, younger son of the Duke of Hamilton, and by her (born 8th of May, 1720; died 11th of May, 1750) he had issue—

1. Charles James Somerled, who died in his fifth year at

* History of the Family, pp. 170-171

Edinburgh, on the 25th of May, 1755, and was buried at Holyrood.

He married, secondly, Flora, daughter of Mackinnon of Mackinnon, a celebrated beauty, with issue—

2. John, his heir.

3. James, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army.

4. Margaret, who died unmarried.

5. Mary, who died unmarried.

6. Penelope, who married William, seventh Lord Belhaven and Stenton (who died 29th of October, 1814), with issue—(1), Robert Montgomery, who, born in 1793, succeeded as 8th peer; (2), William, born in 1799, in the H.E.I.C.S.; and four daughters, Penelope, Susan Mary, Flora (died in 1810), and Jean (died in 1820). Lady Belhaven died in 1816.

Ranald was succeeded by his eldest son,

XXIV. JOHN MACDONALD,

Seventeenth of Clanranald, quite a youth at his father's death. He travelled for several years on the Continent with a learned tutor, who gave him a very liberal education. On his return home, he obtained a commission and became a Captain in the 22d Dragoons. Having made up titles to the family estates, he soon after retired from the army, and resided chiefly on his property, among his retainers, by whom he was greatly esteemed while he lived, and much lamented on his death, in 1794, at the early age of twenty-nine.

He married, first, Katharine, daughter of the Right Hon. Robert Macqueen of Braxfield, Lord Justice-Clerk of Scotland, with issue—

1. Reginald George, his heir, born in Edinburgh on the 29th of August, 1788.

2. Robert Johnstone. 3. Donald.

He married, secondly, his second cousin, Jean, daughter of Colin Macdonald, II. of Boisdale, and grand-daughter of

Alexander, first of Boisdale, second son of Donald, fourteenth of Clanranald, without issue.

He died in 1794, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XXV. REGINALD GEORGE MACDONALD,

Eighteenth of Clanranald. He was born in Edinburgh on the 29th of August, 1788, and was thus a minor, only six years of age, when he succeeded to the property. He was first sent to Edinburgh, and afterwards to Eton to complete his education. He then proceeded to the Continent, where he remained for several years. Coming of age in 1809, he returned home, and was soon after appointed to the command of the Long Island Regiment of Inverness-shire local Militia, which he held for many years. He represented the Burgh of Plymton (disfranchised by the Reform Act of 1832) in Parliament from 1812 to 1824. He lived to a very old age, and, two years before his death, in 1871, he visited his native land, "and delighted his friends by his never failing vivacity and comparatively youthful appearance". According to the Statistical Account the rental of Clanranald's estate in 1837 was about £4500 per annum; but shortly after that date the property was sold by this chief for a large sum to Colonel Gordon of Cluny, Aberdeenshire.

He married, on the 1st of April, 1812, Lady Caroline Ann Edgcumbe, second daughter of Richard, second Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, by whom (who died 10th of April, 1824) he had issue—

1. Reginald John James-George, his heir, now of Clanranald.

2. Caroline-Sophia, who married, 8th September 1842, the Hon. Charles Cust, second son of John, first Earl of Brownlow, with issue—one son, Ernest-Richmond Charles, and three daughters, one of whom Alice-Marian, married, 9th of September, 1876, her cousin, Allan-Roger-Charles

Porcelli, youngest son of Baron Porcelli, a Sicilian nobleman, who married Sarah Anne, his wife's aunt.

3. Emma-Hamilla, who married, 21st of April, 1840, the Hon. and Rev. Alfred Wodehouse, youngest son of John, second Lord Wodehouse, with issue—Hobart ; Reginald, who died, 25th of August, 1861 ; Charles ; Hamilla-Caroline, who, on the 8th of November, 1876, married Edward Taylor, British vice-consul at Dunkerque ; Ernestine-Emma, who on the 17th of May, 1866, married John Marshall, second son of H. C. Marshall, of Westwood Hall, Leeds ; and Laura-Sophia.

4. Louisa-Emily, who married, Charles-William Marsham, eldest surviving son of Robert Marsham of Stratton Strawless, County of Norfolk, and secondly, 4th December, 1856, Colonel Hugh Fitz-Roy, Grenadier Guards, son of Lord Henry Fitz-Roy.

4. Flora, Maid of Honour to the Queen.

6. Sarah-Anne, who married, in 1848, Baron Porcelli, a Sicilian nobleman, with issue, one of whom married his cousin, as above.

Clanranald married secondly, Anne, daughter of William Cunningham, and widow of Richard Barry Dunning, Lord Ashburton, without issue ; and thirdly, Elizabeth Rebecca Newman, also without issue.

He died at his residence, Clarendon Road, London, on the 11th of March, 1873, in the 85th year of his age, when he was succeeded as representative of the family by his eldest son,

XXVI. SIR REGINALD-JOHN JAMES-GEORGE,

Nineteenth and present Clanranald, Vice-Admiral, R.N., K.C.S.I. He married, on the 12th of June, 1855, the Hon. Adelaide Louisa, second daughter of George, fifth Lord Vernon, with issue—

1. Allan Douglas, his heir, born in April, 1856.

2. Angus Roderick, born in April, 1858 ; now in Calcutta.

3. Adelaide Effrida.

THE MACEACHAINN-MACDONALDS.

THIS sept of the Macdonalds is descended from Hector, or, in Gaelic, Eachainn, second son of Roderick Macdonald, third of Moydart and Clanranald, better known among the Highlanders as Ruari MacAlain, by his wife, Margaret, daughter of Donald Balloch, Chief of Clann Ian Mhoir [see p. 369.] Eachainn obtained lands in Morvern, Argyllshire. In 1501, Ewen MacEachainn, son of Hector, or Eachainn MacRuari, was with his chief Allan MacRuari, fourth of Clanranald, and several others, summoned before the Privy Council, to exhibit the rights by which each of them held their lands, but, refusing to attend, on the 10th of December a decret was pronounced against them, in which it is declared that "the said Ewen MacEachainn does wrong in the occupying of the lands of Ardtornish in the Morvern" and he is ordained to "desist and cease therefrom," that they may be enjoyed by the king's highness.

The great majority of those who descended from Eachainn and called themselves after him, have, in later times, adopted the more general name of Macdonald. We still, however, meet with the original name in various forms, principally in Argyllshire, such as MacEachan, MacEachren, MacEacharn, MacEachin, Macichan, MacEchern, MacKechnie, and others—all corruptions of the original MacEachainn, or son of Hector. It is impossible to follow the minor septs under these various designations. Indeed, we are quite unable to complete the steps of descent in the main line of the family, and must content ourselves with a very imperfect sketch of its later members. The first of whom we can obtain any historical view is—

CHARLES MAC EACHAINN, or Macdonald. He belonged to the "Sliochd Aonghais Bhuidhe," who "held themselves aloof, and superior to the other MacEachans". He occupied the farms of Kinloid and Keppoch, in Arasaig under Clanranald, where he held the much honoured position, in those days, of Armourer to his chief. He was among the first chosen by Clanranald in 1745 to muster his mainland retainers, and Charles MacEachainn, marched at the head of one hundred and twenty Arasaig Macdonalds to the standard of Prince Charles at Glenfinnan, and, under the banner of his chief, he took a distinguished part in all the struggles of the subsequent campaign. After the battle of Culloden, MacEachainn missed the opportunity of escaping to France with his other friends and the Prince. From the position he took under Clanranald in the recent rebellion he became a marked man, and every effort was made by the government troops to capture him. Failing in this, he was, in due course, outlawed ; but taking refuge in Ardnamurchan among his friends, he managed to escape capture, being carefully concealed and protected by the Rev. Alexander Macdonald, an Episcopalian minister, better known as "Maighistir Alastair," father of the famous Jacobite Gaelic Bard, "Alastair MacMhaighistir Alastair," parish schoolmaster of Ardnamurchan, a Presbyterian elder, and a Roman Catholic in succession. The bard was also, with his brother Angus, a wanderer from Cumberland's blood-hounds in similar circumstances, and for the same cause as MacEachainn. On Clanranald's return from France, Charles MacEachainn's farms were restored to him. His children, two sons and several daughters, were educated by their cousin, the Jacobite Gaelic poet and parish schoolmaster, Alexander Macdonald.

Charles married Marcella, daughter of Alexander Macdonald of Dalilea,* and a cousin of Alexander Macdonald the poet, with issue—

* This Macdonald of Dalilea was out in 1745 ; and escaped with the Prince to France after Culloden ; and wrote a journal and memoirs of the campaign. The Macdonalds held Dalilea until it was sold by Miss Jane Macdonald to

1. John, who became a priest. He was educated, first, in the Seminary of Bourbloch, and afterwards in Spain, where, for seven years, he was Professor of Moral Philosophy in the Catholic College of Valladolid. He subsequently returned home, and acted as Professor in the Catholic Seminary at Samalaman. He was known as a highly cultured and accomplished scholar. On his return from Spain he was appointed priest in charge of his native parish, and was, on several occasions, offered the Catholic Bishopric of Glasgow, the responsibility of which he felt called upon to decline.

2. Alexander, a doctor of medicine. The second son, ALEXANDER, who on the death of his brother John, became representative of the family, entered King's College, Aberdeen, where he studied for the medical profession. Having taken his degree he afterwards practised as a physician in Arasaig, Lewis, Uist, and the Isle of Skye. In 1794, he joined the Glengarry Fencibles in the capacity of surgeon, and served with the regiment in Ireland during the rebellion of 1798. He was known as "An Doitear Ruadh," or Red Doctor. So far as we can discover, he appears to have been the first of this branch of the family who adopted the name of Macdonald; for the Catholic Directory shows that he entered the Seminary of Bourbloch under the name of "MacEachan," and left it a "Macdonald". The MacEachainns, however, always reckoned themselves a branch of the Macdonalds, and, in most cases, so signed their names. Neil MacEachainn, who accompanied Prince Charles to Paris, and became the father of the famous Marshal Macdonald of France, Duke of Tarentum, always signed himself "N. Macdonald" as for instance in his first letter "since I parted with you at Edinburgh" to his "Dr Florry" Macdonald, dated Paris, Feby. 28th, 1749; a copy of which we have now before us.

Mr. Hope Scott, who changed the name to Lochshiel. It is now the property of Lord Howard. The Macdonalds of Dalilea are extinct in the male line, the last, Archibald, having died about fifty years ago, leaving three daughters, who married respectively Major Campbell of Glenlyon, Colonel Wilson, and Colonel Donald Macdonell, H.E.I.C.S., father of Æneas Macdonell, advocate, Morar.

Dr. Alexander married, Margaret, daughter of Ranald MacAlister of Strathaird, Isle of Skye, by his wife Ann, daughter of Alexander Macdonald, VI. of Kingsburgh, [see p. 269] with issue—

1. John, a Captain in the H.E.I.C.S., who died in India.
2. Reginald, a Captain in the same service, died in India.
3. Alexander, a Lieutenant in the Company's service ; died in India.

4. Keith, a Lieutenant in the Indian Navy, who married Flora, daughter of Colonel Norman MacAlister (whose name he assumed, on succeeding to her property) with issue—one son who died young, and two daughters, both married

5. Charles Macdonald, a Lieutenant in the Glengarry Fencibles, and who afterwards obtained a commission in the 7th West Indian Regiment. He subsequently settled at Ord, in the Isle of Skye.

6. Isabella, who married, Captain Allan MacLellan of the Glengarry Fencibles, with issue—six sons (of whom four died without issue) and four daughters ; (1), Keith, the eldest son now living, who married Jessie Macdonell, of the family of Keppoch, with issue ; (2), Alister Macdonald, of Portree Estate, Ceylon, now residing at Munlochy, in Ross-shire, who married Bella Christian, daughter of Alexander MacRa, late of Hushinish Harris ; (3), Charles, drowned on his way to India ; (4), Marcella, who married Horatio MacCulloch, the celebrated landscape painter, without issue ; (5), Margaret ; (6), Flora ; and (7), Ann, all three married, with issue, in Australia.

7. Ann, who married Captain Andrew Macdonald of the 42nd Royal Highlanders, "Black Watch," with issue—(1), John, who died in India ; (2), Ann, who married Thomas Williamson, with issue (in addition to four sons and a daughter who died young)—Oliphant, who married Maria Watson, Glasgow, with issue ; Charles, who married Jessie Watson, a sister of his brother's wife, with issue ; Ann, who married her cousin Charles, second son of Charles Macdonald of Ord, with issue ; also Alexander, and Margaret.

8. Elizabeth, who married Mr. Lohead, Glasgow ; issue extinct.

9. Flora, who married Mr. Mackintosh of the Inland Revenue, Inverness, and emigrated to Australia.

10. Catherine, who died unmarried, in Glasgow.

11. Susan, who died young.

CHARLES MACDONALD of Ord, fifth son of Dr. Alexander MacEachainn, or Macdonald, of the Glengarry Fencibles, became representative of the family on the death of his brothers. He married Ann, daughter of Captain Neil Macleod of Gesto, Isle of Skye, and died, at Ord, in 1867, leaving issue—five sons and three daughters.

1. Alexander R. Macdonald, now of Ord, who married Maria Macdonell of Keppoch, with issue—three sons, one of whom died young, and two daughters.

2. Lachlan Macdonald, now of Skaebost, well-known among Highlanders for the lively interest he takes in the welfare of his poorer countrymen, and his intelligent appreciation and support of everything pertaining to the Highlands ; especially, the language, literature, and agricultural interests of the Gaelic people. He married Wilhelmína, daughter of the late John MacKenzie of Bengal, originally from Galston, Island of Lewis, with issue—five sons and one daughter.

3. Keith, a Doctor of Medicine, at Cupar-Fife, who married Miss Niblett, Edinburgh, with issue—two sons.

4. Neil Macdonald of Dunach, Argyllshire, who married Madeline, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Brown, Newark, with issue—three sons.

6. Flora, who married Alexander Smith, the poet, author of "A Summer in Skye," and other works, with issue—one son and two daughters.

7. Isabella, who married John Robertson of Grishernish, Isle of Skye, with issue—four sons and seven daughters.

8. Margaret, who married Godfrey MacKinnon of North Goonambil, Australia, with issue—two sons and two daughters.

THE MACDONALDS OF GLENALADALE.

THE progenitor of this family, known among the Highlanders as *Clann Mhic Ian Oig*, was—

I. JOHN or IAN OG MACDONALD, second son of the famous John Moydartach, VII. of Clanranald, by his first wife, Marriatte Mac Ian of Ardnamurchan. He took a prominent share with his father in the wars and feuds of the turbulent period in which he lived, and was distinguished for his reckless bravery. He married his cousin Sheela, or Juliet Macdonald of Clanranald, and by her had one son,

II. ALEXANDER MACDONALD. This young man was of a more than usual restless disposition, and not finding sufficiently attractive work at home, he proceeded in quest of more stirring adventure to Ireland, where he joined the army, and fought in several engagements. His father lost sight of him, and, hearing nothing of him for many years, he concluded that he had been killed in battle, and made over his Glenaladale possessions to his own brother, Allan Macdonald, VIII. of Clanranald. Alexander, however, returned from Ireland after his father's death, and found himself without an inch of his father's property. The family heritage was in possession of tenants placed there by Clanranald. Alexander insisted upon their removal, but they were naturally unwilling, and declined to relinquish their holdings. The heir of Glenaladale determined to get possession of his father's lands—his own rightful heritage—and resolved to muster a resolute band of adherents to drive the intruders out by force. He soon found a sufficient number of his countrymen willing to support his

cause and ready to share his fortune. Having met, they agreed to choose the hour of midnight as the most suitable for carrying their resolution into effect, by taking the enemy unawares. They soon set out for their destination. At this time there lived, on the way, at Dalilea, half-way between Glenfinnan and Castletirrim, an important personage named Mac Isaig, or Mac Isaac, who acted as factor or overseer for Clanranald in that district. He was much respected and looked up to by the country people, and often consulted by Clanranald himself in cases of difficulty with his tenants. Indeed, so very shrewd and prudent was he considered in the district, that he acquired, and was generally known by, the appellation of "Judge Mac Isaig," in which capacity he often acted as Clanranald's depute in settling disputes among the people to which the chief himself could not give his personal attention. One of Mac Isaig's servants was out at night attending to the cattle when Alexander and his trusty band were passing through Dalilea on their march to eject Clanranald's tenants from Glenaladale. The girl recognised their leader, and she at once went to her master and told him she saw a party of men marching past, headed, as she thought, by Alexander Mac Ian Oig. Mac Isaig at once divined the object of the expedition, and sent the girl to tell Alexander to wait until he should come out to see him. Glenaladale halted, and Mac Isaig, coming up to him, asked where he was going with his men at that time of night, adding that he was afraid the object of his journey was not one of the best. Alexander at once stated his intention and the object of his expedition. Mac Isaig strongly advised him to remain at Dalilea that night with his men, while he himself would start at once to see Clanranald at Castletirrim, and there plead Alexander's cause in a peaceful manner. This arrangement was finally agreed upon. Mac Isaig started for Castletirrim, had an interview with Clanranald, and, after some pleading, prevailed upon him not only to restore Glenaladale to Alexander, the rightful owner, but also to add Glenfinnan to it as a protecting outpost. The latter

place was at the time infested with a band of robbers and cattle-lifters, chiefly Camerons from Lochaber, who were very troublesome, and a terror to the surrounding country ; and, as Alexander had proved himself an able and energetic warrior, Mac Isaig had no difficulty in convincing Clanranald that he would be the most likely, if he got the lands for himself, to succeed in ridding the country of the pestiferous band. Alexander justified this opinion of him, and Glenfinnan was soon cleared of the unwelcome intruders who had taken forcible possession of it. In addition to these lands he obtained Langel as a dowry with his wife, Letitia, daughter of Clanranald, who, when she married, was so advanced in years that her father thought she would have no issue, and that, therefore, her husband's whole possessions would return to himself as next heir-male of his nephew. In this, however, he was disappointed, for by his wife Alexander of Glenaladale had two sons—

1. Roderick, his heir ; and 2, Alexander.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. RODERICK MACDONALD, who married Miss Macdonald of Kinloch-Moidart, with issue—

1. Angus, who succeeded ; 2, John ; 3, Alexander.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

IV. ANGUS MACDONALD, who became a priest. Hitherto the family possessions were held by the ancient right of the sword ; but this man of peace thought the time had arrived when it would be prudent to fall in with modern practice ; so he procured the first charter ever possessed by the family of the lands of Glenaladale and Glenfinnan. Before his death he made over the property to his younger brother,

V. JOHN MACDONALD, who married Miss Macdonald of Ballmein, with issue—

1. John, his heir.

2. Angus, who occupied Borrodale, and whose son Alexander, afterwards succeeded by purchase, to Glenaladale.

3. Ranald ; 4, Alexander ; 5, Allan ; 6, James ; 7, Donald.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. JOHN MACDONALD, who married Miss Macdonald of Morar, with issue—

1. Alexander his heir.

2. John ; 3, Allan.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

VII. ALEXANDER MACDONALD. When Prince Charles landed on the West Coast of Scotland in the territory of Clanranald, in 1745, this Alexander, then younger of Glenaladale ; young Clanranald ; and Kinloch-moidart, were the very earliest to join his standard, which, it is well known, was first unfurled on Glenaladale's property at Glenfinnan, where a monument now stands to indicate the spot. He accompanied Prince Charles throughout, in the Clanranald contingent, holding the rank of major, and fought at Falkirk and Prestonpans. He accompanied the army into England, and afterwards took part in the fatal battle of Culloden. The pipes which his piper played on that disastrous occasion are still preserved in the family.

He married Margaret, eldest daughter, and only child of Donald Macdonell, IV. of Scotus, by his first wife, Helen Meldrum of Meldrum. By her he had issue—

1. John his heir.

2. Austin, Huistean, or Augustine, who became a priest, and, in 1809, followed his elder brother to British North America, where he became very popular, and almost venerated by his countrymen in Prince Edward Island, among whom he ministered for a few years. The following notice of his entry into college is found in the *Scoto-chronicon* :—"Rev. Augustine Macdonald, from the Diocese of the Isles, entered the Scots College, Rome, 1757, aged 13 years ; left it, and went priest to the mission in 1769. He was a man of great piety and unbounded zeal. Some time after 1800 he went to America ; and there died soon after." Having studied for twelve years in Rome, he became a profound theologian, an eloquent preacher, and a highly cultured general scholar. He was withal a man of child-like simplicity. Bishop Macdonald, of Prince Edward

Island, in a recent lecture makes the following reference to "Maighistir Uistean," as he was affectionately called by his people:—"Like the great Bishop Hay, and the still greater Cardinal Newman, he was a tolerable performer on the violin—at least in his own estimation. And according to what I learn from those who knew him intimately, his proficiency on the violin was what he prided himself most on. You might call in question the depth of his knowledge as a theologian or his eloquence as a preacher—and they say he was eloquent and powerful—and he remained quite unconcerned; but the moment you found fault with his music, you evidently touched him on the tender spot. I often heard very old men and very old women give an account of the days when, as young children, they attended Catechism with him; and how, after a severe and painstaking instruction, particularly if they answered well, he would take his violin and give them some lively tunes. Nay more, he would even get the children to dance; and whenever any of them displayed extra skill and agility in tripping it on the green, he appeared to take it as a special compliment paid to what he considered his own good music." He died through an operation of unskilful blood-letting; the vein being pierced caused mortification to set in in the arm, which, after great pain and agony, terminated fatally, when he was interred alongside his brother's remains in the Scotch Fort.

3. Donald, who accompanied his brother to Prince Edward Island.

Alexander was succeeded by his eldest son,

VIII. JOHN MACDONALD, who at the date of the battle of Culloden was a mere child. He was sent to Ratisbon, in Germany, for his education, where he went through a complete course of studies in the various branches of learning taught at that famous Catholic seminary. After this he returned to his native country, where he was considered one of the most finished and accomplished young gentlemen of his generation. In 1770 a violent persecution against the Catholics broke out in the island of South Uist. Alexander Macdonald, I. of Boisdale, abandoned the religion

of his forefathers, and tried to compel all his dependents to follow his example. After many acts of oppression, he summoned all his tenants to hear a paper read to them in their native tongue, containing a renunciation of their religion, and a promise, under oath, never more to hold communication with a Catholic priest. The alternative was either to sign the paper or lose their lands and homes. Their unanimous resolution was at once taken, namely, to starve sooner than submit. Boisdale actually attempted, with his sturdy yellow walking-stick, to drive his tenants before him to the Protestant Church like a flock of sheep, which unchristian proceeding on his part induced the people on whom he operated, instead of adopting his creed, to designate the new religion attempted to be forced upon them, in contempt, as *Creideamh a bhata bhuidhe*, or the religion of the yellow stick. Glenaladale, hearing of the proceedings, went to visit the people, and was so touched by their pitiable condition that he formed the resolution of expatriating himself, and going off, at their head, to America. Before the end of 1771 he purchased a large estate in St. John's (now Prince Edward's) Island, to which he took out his persecuted fellow Catholics from South Uist. A little later the War of Independence broke out between England and her American colonies, now forming the United States. In this emergency Glenaladale was the means of forming the 84th Regiment, or "Royal Highland Emigrants," and his energy and pluck will appear from the following daring enterprise. During the American Revolution, an American man-of-war came to the coast of Nova Scotia, near a post where Glenaladale was on detachment duty, with a small portion of his men of the 84th Highland Emigrants. A part of the crew of the enemy's ship having landed for the purpose of plundering the inhabitants, Glenaladale, with his handful of men, boarded the vessel, cut down those who had been left in charge of her, hoisted sail, and brought her as a prize triumphantly into the harbour of Halifax. He there got a reinforcement, marched back to his former post, and took the whole crew, composed

of Americans and French, prisoners. As regards his military virtues and abilities General Small, writing to the English government, says of him—"The activity and unabating zeal of Captain John Macdonald of Glenaladale in bringing an excellent company into the field is his least recommendation, being acknowledged by all who know him to be one of the most accomplished men and best officers of his rank in his Majesty's service". Previous to settling in America, he sold the estate of Glenaladale to his cousin and nearest heir, Alexander Macdonald, son of Angus, second son of John, V. of Glenaladale, as above. The British Government offered him the Governorship of Prince Edward's Island, but owing to the oath of allegiance necessary at the time, he, as a Catholic, was obliged to decline this high office.

He married first, Miss Gordon of Baldornie (now Wardhouse), aunt to the late distinguished Admiral Sir James Gordon, by whom he had an only child, who survived its mother only a few months. He married, secondly, Marjory Macdonald of Ghernish, with issue—

1. Donald, his heir, who emigrated with his father to Prince Edward Island, and who, with his next brother, William, was sent to Stonyhurst, in England, for his education. The vessel in which they came across was wrecked on the Irish Coast, when William was drowned. Donald was saved, arrived at his destination, and, after going through his course of studies, returned to Prince Edward Island, where he took a prominent part in the public affairs of the Colony, until his death, at Quebec, some twenty years ago.

2. William, drowned off the coast of Ireland.

3. John, who was sent to Montreal, and afterwards to Paris, to complete his education. He became a priest; exercised his calling in Glasgow for many years, and subsequently returned to Prince Edward Island, where he laboured in various charges. He returned to Britain in 1845, and died at Brighton in 1874.

4. Roderick C., of Castletirrim, Prince Edward Island,

educated with his brother at Montreal and Paris, became Paymaster in the British Army. He served in New Brunswick, in Bermuda, in the Ionian Islands, and in Greece, where he died about twenty-seven years ago. He was married to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Alastair Ranaldson Macdonell, XV. of Glengarry, with issue—a son and two daughters.

5. Flora, who married Alexander Macdonald of the Glengarry Fencibles, with issue—two sons and two daughters. She died in Charlottetown a few years ago.

John of Glenaladale died in 1811, in his adopted country, and was buried at the Scotch Fort, in Prince Edward Island. He was, as we have seen, in 1772, succeeded in the estates of Glenaladale and Glenfinnan by purchase and as next heir male in this country, by his cousin,

IX. ALEXANDER MACDONALD, of Borrodale, son of Angus, second son of John, V. of Glenaladale. He had been in the West Indies, where he accumulated considerable wealth, and was, in consequence, called by the natives, "Alastair an oir". Shortly before his death he made a settlement of the property in favour of his eldest son, whom failing, on his next heir-at-law John Macdonald, eldest son of his brother Ranald. He married Miss Macgregor, by whom he had three sons—John, Alexander, and Angus. The eldest and youngest died in infancy.

He was succeeded by his only surviving son,

X. ALEXANDER MACDONALD, who died, unmarried, in 1814, at the age of twenty-eight, when he was succeeded, in terms of his father's settlement, and as heir-at-law, by his cousin-german,

XI. JOHN MACDONALD, who married Jane, daughter of Macnab of Innishewen, with issue—

1. Angus, his heir.
2. Ranald, died young.
3. Alexander, wine merchant, Inverness, who married Margaret Watson, daughter of Hugh Watson of Torsonce, W.S., with issue—(1) John, in New Zealand; (2) Hugh, a priest in Glasgow; (3) James, professor at the Scotch

College of Vallodolid ; (4) Alexander, a civil engineer, who went to America ; (5) Andrew, solicitor, and captain in the Inverness-shire Rifle Volunteers, who married Mina, daughter of John Chisholm, with issue—Alexander, born 16th November, 1872 ; Andrew Edward, born 10th February, 1878 ; Ellen ; Margaret Mary ; Clementina ; and Jane Frances ; (6) Donald ; and (7) Joseph, both of whom died young ; (8) Mary, a nun.

4. John, a Lieutenant-Colonel, H.E.I.C.S., who highly distinguished himself in circumstances of the most trying description for undaunted courage and bravery. We quote the following from an authentic historical narrative of the Indian Mutiny, well known in military circles :—It is necessary that one more tragical event should be recorded—the murderous assault at Rohnee, distant 300 miles from Calcutta. It was the head-quarters of the 5th Irregular Cavalry. There were present of that regiment Major Macdonald, commanding ; Sir Norman Leslie, the Adjutant ; and Dr. Grant. On the 8th June, these three officers were seated outside the bungalow of the first named, engaged in friendly conversation in the evening. During a pause, Dr. Grant rose with the intention of entering the bungalow. In the very act of rising, he noticed the stealthy approach of three men, apparently strangers. As he turned to point them out to his companions, the intruders, drawing their swords, rushed upon them. Our party were without weapons of any sort, and had not time to fly. Sir Norman Leslie, indeed, turned to enter the house in search of his sword ; but, his foot slipping at the threshold, he was cut down at once. The other two seized the chairs on which they had been sitting, and with them endeavoured to ward off the blows aimed at them. Both, however, were wounded. Major Macdonald, receiving three severe cuts on the head, was scalped, and the affair would probably have terminated unfavourably for both of them, were it not that their assailants lost courage and fled for fear of detection. It was not known who they were. There was a guard close to the house, but the troopers composing it de-

clared that they had neither seen nor heard anything of the intruders. The news of this dastardly attack was quickly conveyed to the lines ; all the men were instantly collected, and their swords drawn for inspection ; all, however, were found clean ; not a speck of blood was apparent on any of them. All was mystery ; no suspicion attached to the men of the regiment, who had up to that time behaved well ; and from the fact of the murderers having worn dhotees, they were believed to be disbanded Sepoys, many of whom had been seen in the neighbourhood. Such were the first impressions, but time brings to light every evil deed. It was ascertained by the confession of a comrade that these men belonged to Major Macdonald's own corps. They were at once seized by his command—brought to a drum-head court-martial and sentenced to be hanged. Now came the trying moment ; it was impossible to say whether these men had or had not any accomplices in the regiment ; whether the entire corps was not infected. They might refuse to allow the sentence of death to be carried out ; they might turn against their officers, only two in number, one of them deprived of his scalp. These contingencies appeared not only possible, but probable ; more unlikely events have happened before, and have occurred since. In this emergency Major Macdonald showed the undaunted pluck of a Highlander. Let him tell his own story, it is worth recording :—" One of the prisoners was of very high caste and influence, and this man I determined to treat with the greatest ignominy, by getting a low caste man to hang him. To tell the truth, I never for a moment expected to leave the hanging scene alive ; but I determined to do my duty. I well knew the effect that pluck and decision had on the natives. The regiment was drawn out ; wounded cruelly as I was, I had to see everything done myself, even to the adjusting of the ropes, and saw them looped to run easy. Two of the culprits were paralyzed with fear and astonishment ; never dreaming that I should dare to hang them without an order from government. The third said he would *not* be hanged, and called on the pro-

phet and on his comrades to rescue him. This was an awful moment ; an instant's hesitation on my part, and probably I should have had a dozen balls through me ; so I seized a pistol, clapped it to the man's ear, and said, with a look that could not be mistaken, 'another word out of your mouth and your brains shall be scattered on the ground'. He trembled and held his tongue. The elephant came up—he was put on his back—the rope adjusted—the elephant moved—and he was left dangling. I then had the others up and off in the same way ; and after some time, when I dismissed the men of the regiment to their lines, I still found my head on my shoulders ; I really could scarcely believe it." In another letter, in reply to a brother officer, who advised him to go away on account of his wounds, he replied, "Certainly not ; leave any strange officer with the men ! I had rather stay and die first."

Such is the stuff of which British officers are composed ! Who can wonder that, in spite of divided counsels, of orders and counter-orders, of procrastination unheard of before—of the weakest, the most selfish, and most incapable government that ever ruled in any crisis—the mutiny should have been put down. Had Major Macdonald gone away for the cure of his wounds ; had he flinched on the day of execution ; had he feared to take upon himself the responsibility of ordering that execution, the 5th Irregulars would then and there have risen in revolt. Subsequent events have proved that there was at that time an organised conspiracy in the regiment ; that many knew of the plot to assassinate their three officers ; that they waited its fulfilment to rise *en masse*. They were cowed first by the ill success of the plot, second, by the determined spirit and truly Highland pluck displayed by Major Macdonald at the execution. Everything depended upon his spirit. Another call from the condemned trooper to his comrades to save him, and Major Macdonald's life would not have been worth five minutes' purchase. The regiment would have risen ; and in the middle of June an insurrection in that part of the country would have endangered Calcutta, Putna, and the whole of

Bengal, and yet although Major Macdonald's firmness undoubtedly saved us at that time from a great calamity, we fail to trace in the papers published by authority any signification to him of the approval of the Supreme Government. There are glorifications *in extenso* of civilians, and occasional notices of military men ; but in praise of Major Macdonald the Government of Lord Canning is silent. There is an expression of approval from the Commander-in-Chief, but it is not endorsed by the Governor-General. Does any one inquire the reason ? Major Macdonald was a nominee of the late Sir Charles Napier, for a deed of unflinching daring and ready presence of mind, in shutting the gates of the fortress of Umritzir against the whole body of the mutinous 66th in 1849-50. Sir Charles Napier gave him the command of the 5th Irregulars, and the following is his letter on the occasion :—

“MY DEAR MACDONALD,—I am delighted at finding from the Adjutant-General, before I got your note, that you were not prevented from holding a staff employment (by not having passed in the language). I believe a vacancy will soon take place ; I shall place you in it. You have *won* it, if ever a man deserved well of his chief. But for your decision we should have had the devil to pay at Umritzir. So you are not under any obligation to me.

“Yours sincerely,

(Signed) “C. NAPIER.”

The particulars of Major Macdonald's act of pluck on that occasion were as follows :—On the first well-grounded suspicion that this mutinous feeling was likely to break out into acts, the assistance of an English cavalry regiment stationed at some distance from the fort was sent for. Major Macdonald, who was on duty at the moment, feeling anxious at the delay of their arrival, buckled on his sword and walked down alone to the gate through which they were expected to arrive. As he arrived at the gate, he found the Sepoys in the act of closing the gates, in open

mutiny, preparatory to a general massacre, and the officers on duty powerless. Major Macdonald, drawing his sword, rushed forward, and with a voice of thunder, threatened to cut down the first man that opposed him. His determination cowed them; they fell back to a man, and with his own hands, he re-opened the gates. By this time, luckily, the cavalry were galloping up within sight, and entered without opposition.*

The London *Examiner*, on another occasion, finding fault with an instance of want of promptness in dealing with the Sepoys at Dinapore, says, "Another account states that only four hours were allowed the Sepoys to deliberate—but, in such a case, four minutes would be too long. What, for instance, would have been the consequence if the intrepid Major Macdonald had wavered for a single moment when he stood by the gallows, with his revolver in hand, at the execution of Sir Norman Leslie's murderers? Minutes count for hours, often for days, in emergencies like these. If there is in the whole circuit of human affairs one occasion more than another when the deed ought to follow the decision as swift as the thunderbolt follows the flash—when to act ought to be almost identical with to think—it is the presence of mutiny, just such a crises as that at Dinapore, where more time was allowed the mutineers to mature their plans than such a man as Macdonald would have required to scatter the three disaffected regiments, limb by limb, over the cantonment. A Willoughby, a Macdonald, or an Eyre would have strangled the revolt in the cradle."

Colonel Macdonald in 1848, married Helen Morgan, (She died in India in 1855) with issue—two daughters.

5. Ranald George Charles, died young.
6. Donald, a priest, now at Glenfinnan.
7. Clementina, who died unmarried, in 1874.
8. Catharine, died unmarried, at Inverness, in June, 1880.
9. Margaret, who married Colin Chisholm, solicitor, Inverness, and died in 1868. He died in 1877, leaving

* The Red Pamphlet.

issue—John Archibald, Holm Mills, Inverness ; Æneas, a priest in Banff ; and Colin, with his brother at the Holm Mills ; Jane, died unmarried ; Sarah, unmarried ; and Clementina, died young.

10. Jane, died unmarried.

11. Helen died young.

Glenaladale died in 1830, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XI. ANGUS MACDONALD, who, born in 1793, married in 1836, Mary, younger daughter of Hugh Watson of Torsonce, W.S., Mid-Lothian, with issue—

1. John Andrew, his heir.

2. Hugh Joseph, Superior of the Redemptorists, Kin-noull, Perthshire.

3. Angus (B.A., London), the present Right Rev. (Catholic) Lord Bishop of Argyll and the Isles.

4. Mary Margaret, a nun.

5. Jane Veronica, unmarried.

He died in 1870, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XIII. JOHN ANDREW MACDONALD, now of Glenaladale, who married Helen, eldest daughter of Edward Chaloner of Hermiston Hall, Nottinghamshire, without issue. She died several years ago.

THE MACDONALDS OF KINLOCHMOIDART.

THIS family is descended from John, fourth son of Allan Macdonald, VIII. of Clanranald. The Macdonalds of Kinlochmoidart, always maintained that the head of their house was chief of Clanranald, and without in any way committing ourselves to the family claim, it is perhaps only fair to state the allegations on which it is based.

Æneas Macdonald, a banker in Paris, brother of Kinlochmoidart, accompanied Prince Charles to the Highlands in 1745, and for the services rendered on that occasion by himself and other members of the family, he writes to Mr. Edgar from Boulogne-sur-Mer, under date of 12th October, 1751, asking him "to recommend to His Majesty's protection the oldest boy who is now at the Scots College at Paris, and for whom we design a genteel education if we knew how to support it". He then proceeds to enumerate promises made by Prince Charles to his family, one being that His Royal Highness proposed to the doctor's late brother a Colonelcy of Horse Dragoons; promised a "Peerage to him and his heirs for ever," he having also been "made first Aide-de-camp to His Royal Highness". The doctor continues, "Now I am solicited by my family to beseech his majesty that he would be most graciously pleased to confirm this promise under His Royal Sign Manual, that whenever it shall please God to restore the Royal Family, Alexander Macdonald, now of Kinlochmoidart, or his heirs, shall have his estate restored to him free of all incumbrances, shall be made a Baron of His Majesty's ancient kingdom of Scotland, and a competent allowance assigned

for the support of that dignity. I told you in my last that my demand was to rise very high ; but you will also please to observe, that not one family of the Macdonalds has made so good alliances since we came off the original stock as the family of Kinlochmoidart has had in the four persons that have represented it. None of them lost so much blood in the Royal cause, or had the honour to be more distinguished in their loyalty." To support his claim he sends, along with his letter, a short account of the Family of Macdonald of Moidart, "commonly called Clanranald," from which we extract the following:—"Allan Macdonald of Moidart, last undisputed representative of the Clanranald Family, and called by the Highlanders *Allen Mac Ian*, lived at his house of Castletirrim, in Moidart, about the end of the reign of James the V. . . . He was great-grandfather of Ranald Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart, major of the second regiment of Clanranald in 1715." The History of Allan Macdonald VIII. of Moidart, "according to all the Genealogists of the Highlands"! he then supplies in these terms—"He first married a daughter of Macleod of Harris, by whom he had a son, but some years afterwards, paying a visit with his lady to Maclean of Duart, he fell in love with a daughter of the said Maclean, and carried her off directly in some of his long-boats or *Birlins*, to Castletirrim, leaving his own lady at Maclean's house at Duart, where she did not remain long before Macdonald of Keppoch seeing her, and taking a fancy to her in her misfortunes, took her away to his house and cohabited with her. Allan of Moidart in the meantime kept Maclean's daughter with him at Castletirrim, and had two sons by her, who, proving to be youths, and the mother seeing that the former son which Allan had had by Macleod's daughter should be the heir, she fell upon a stratagem to put him out of the way and make room for her own children to come in his place. It was Allan of Moidart's custom to pass with her a part of summer at a place called Keppoch, in Arisaig, which was but a few hours' rowing from Castletirrim ; near this

place the sea forms a lake, called in the country dialect Lochnakeaul, much frequented to this day by vast numbers of seals, which is a sort of sea animal that delights to stretch himself upon the rocks in hot weather. Allan of Moidart's three sons often diverted themselves with shooting these animals upon the rocks, and the mother of the two younger brothers finding this apt opportunity for completing her design, gave her two sons their lesson so well, that, one day, as their elder brother was taking an aim at one of these seals, they shot him dead upon the spot; so that these two sons were then the only offspring of Allan Macdonald of Moidart, or Allan Mac Ian. Some time after the murder of Moidart's eldest and only lawful son, Macleane's daughter died, as did also Macleod's daughter, who was in Keppoch's possession, and was properly Allan's lawful wife; upon this, Allan, being then free of all engagements, married a daughter of Macdonald of Glengary by whom he had a son, John, commonly called *Ian Mac Allen*. This John was grandfather to Ranald Macdonald of Kinlochmoidart, who was major to Clanranald in 1715, and died in Moidart in 1725. The above mentioned *Ian Mac Allen*, not being powerful enough to contend with his two brothers about the right of succession, as they were headstrong men, and he but a youth and without support, and his father Allen in his dotage, he was obliged, after some vain attempts, to take what fortune was allotted to him, and was the first Kinloch Moidart.* This claim by a member of the family, is given here for whatever it may be worth, but it is right to say that we have not from any source met with a single fact corroborative of the statements therein made. The present representative of the family however maintains their accuracy, and having stated them we must leave those interested to settle the question among themselves.

I. JOHN MACDONALD, first of this family, known among the Highlanders as *Ian Mac Alein*, obtained from his father,

* Stuart Papers, published as an Appendix to Brown's History of the Highlands and Highland Clans, 1838, vol. iv., pp. 91-93.

Allen, VIII. of Clanranald, a feu charter of Kinlochmoidart, and Askernish, with lands in Uist, which latter were afterwards exchanged for Glenforslan, Ulgaig, Arsaig, and other lands in Moydart. He married a daughter of Macleod of Lewis, with issue—

1. Alexander, his heir.
2. John of Borrodale, issue extinct.
3. Roderick of Barrisdale, whose issue is also extinct,

He died in 1584, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

II. ALEXANDER MACDONALD. According to the statement of Æneas Macdonald, the Paris banker, "Alexander Macdonald was contemporary with Donald Macdonald of Moidart, called Captain of Clanranald, who being sensible of Alexander's right to the estate, made a full and true disposition to him and his heirs for ever, which disposition is still extant; it was only in case his two sons should die without children, which did happen, by the one being killed as above, at the battle of Dunblane, in 1715, and the other dying a bachelor at Paris in 1726; but this disposition, nor any other claim of right, were not found of any use in law, as the estate was then under attainder, but given up for the behoof of the creditors, who were masters, to give it to whom they pleased, and they thought proper to confer it upon Macdonald of Benbecula." This statement is obviously incorrect. Alexander of Kinlochmoidart died in 1644, and the Donald of Clanranald referred to did not come into possession, until the death of his father in 1670, twenty-six years after the death of Alexander of Kinlochmoidart. In these circumstances it is scarcely possible that he could have made "a full and true disposition" in favour of a man who had been so long in his grave, before the property came into his own possession. The eldest of Donald of Clanranald's two sons, on whose dying childless, the coming into force of this full and true disposition depended, was not born until 1670, twenty-six years after Kinlochmoidart's death. It is therefore impossible to understand how Donald of Clanranald knew, so long before,

that he was to have, more than a quarter of a century later, two sons, whose names would be Allan and Ranald, and who would die without issue to suit this remarkable and "full," but, we are afraid, not "true" disposition. The statement regarding the action of the creditors is equally unfounded [see pp. 427-428].

William Robertson Macdonald, now of Kinlochmoidart writes—"Allan of Moidart married Penelope, daughter of Colonel Mackenzie, Governor of Tobago, and left all his estates to his widow, who wished to marry Donald, Ranald of Kinlochmoidart's eldest son, and thus settle all differences, and unite the properties again. This he could not do, being betrothed; and she, by aid of the crown, the estates being under attainder, left the estates of Moidart to Donald Macdonald elder of Benbecula, who by the failure of the said Allan Penelope's husband and his brother Ranald without heirs-male lawfully procreate of their body, was the next nearest male descendant of Ranald of Benbecula. This will is dated 5th December, 1726. So in this way the estates of Moydart passed away from the descendants of Ian Mac Allan of Kinlochmoidart, the only legitimate son of Allan Mac Ian of Moydart." The reader who has perused the preceding pages will have no difficulty in coming to a conclusion, in his own mind, on the points at issue.

Alexander married, according to the family genealogy, a daughter of Allan Mor Macdonald of Morar, with issue—

1. Ranald, his heir.
2. James.
3. Angus, who married a daughter of Charles Maclean of Morvern, and died of wounds received in Ireland, fighting for Charles I.

He died in 1644, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. RANALD MACDONALD. He was both at Killiecrankie and Sheriffmuir, with his two sons, Ranald and John, where he highly distinguished himself among the Clanranald. He married the only daughter of John

Cameron of Lochiel (son of Sir Ewen) by his wife Isabel, daughter of Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochnell, with issue, twenty-three children, among whom were—

1. Donald, his heir.
2. John, a Doctor of Medicine, who died, unmarried, in France.
3. Ranald, who married Miss Macdonald of Dalilea, with issue—twenty-one children, one of whom, Ewen, became a priest; and is buried at Eilean Finnan. Most of the others emigrated to America. This Ranald, was the first to join Prince Charles on board the *Doutelle*, in Loch-nan-uagh, in 1745, when young Clanranald and Kinloch-Moidart declined until driven to join by the generous enthusiasm and chivalry of young Ranald, [see pp. 431-432].
4. Allan Mor, who married in France, with issue—one daughter, Clementina Jacobina Sobieski, born in 1768, and married Francis Schnell, with issue—all of whom predeceased their mother, who died in 1842.
5. Allan Og, who married in France, with issue—one daughter, who married the Marquis D'Aveigncourt, with issue—one son, who suffered with his father, during the third year of the French Revolution.
6. Alastair Sean, who emigrated to America.
7. Alastair Og.
8. James, who went to America.
9. Archibald, died unmarried.
10. Æneas, a banker in Paris, who accompanied Prince Charles to Scotland, in 1745. He was killed during the French Revolution.
11. Margaret, who married James Macdonald of Aird, Troternish, Isle of Skye, son of William, tutor of Macdonald, with issue—one son and three daughters, [see p. 284].
12. Anne, who married Angus Maclean, fourth of Kinlochaline, without issue.
13. Mary, who married Macdonald of Morar.
14. Flora, who was engaged to be married to Macdonell of Scotus, but died just before the marriage celebration.

Ranald died in 1725, "from the effects of a bout of sour cream, at Glenforslan," when he was succeeded by his eldest son,

IV. DONALD MACDONALD, who married, Isabel, daughter of Robert Stewart of Appin, by his wife Anne, daughter of Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochnell, with issue—

1. Alexander, his heir.
2. Donald, who married, and died, in Jamacia, without issue.
3. John, died unmarried, in Jamaica, in 1794.
4. Æneas, died in Jamaica, unmarried.
5. Charles, a General in the Army of France, and who subsequently became a French Count. He was guillotined during the Revolution.
6. Allan, who died without issue.
7. Angus, a priest, educated at Douay, who went to America.

Donald joined Prince Charles, who visited him in his house, at Kinlochmoidart, and at the head of a hundred of his retainers accompanied him throughout the whole campaign.* He was executed on the Gallows Hill, at Carlisle, on the 18th of October, 1746; his estates were confiscated, and his house burned to the ground by the English troops, when he was succeeded as representative of the family by his eldest son,

* Sir Walter Scott, in a note to the "Monastery," relates the following anecdote in reference to that scene in his novel of which Stalworth Bolton is the hero. "In the civil war 1745-46, a party of Highlanders, under a chieftain of rank, came to Rose Castle, the seat of the Bishop of Carlisle, but then occupied by the family of Squire Dacre of Cumberland. They demanded quarters, which of course were not to be refused to armed men of a strange attire and unknown language. But the domestic represented to the Captain of the Mountaineers that the lady of the mansion had been just delivered of a daughter, and expressed her hope, that, under these circumstances, his party would give as little trouble as possible. 'God forbid,' said the gallant chief, 'That I or mine, should be the means of adding to a lady's inconvenience, at such a time. May I request to see the infant?' The child was brought, and the Highlander taking his cockade out of his bonnet, and pinning it on the child's breast, 'That will be a token,' he said, 'to any of our people who may come hither, that Donald Macdonald of Kinloch-Moidart, has taken the family of Rose Castle under his protection'. The lady who received in infancy this gage of Highland protection, is now Mary, Lady Clerk of Pennycuik; and on the 18th of June she still wears the cockade, which was pinned on her breast, with a white rose as a kindred decoration."

V. ALEXANDER MACDONALD, a captain in the 42nd Regiment, and afterwards colonel of the 71st Highlanders. He and his brother Charles, already referred to, were educated at the Scots College, Paris. While Alexander rose to a high position in the British Army, Charles, who entered that of France, rose still higher in the French service, and during the American War, the brothers fought on opposite sides. Very curiously, the two were chosen on a certain occasion, to arrange the exchange of prisoners; and Charles, having a strong and natural desire to meet his brother first as such rather than as his enemy, on making a request accordingly, was blindfolded and admitted to the British Camp, where he had an interview with his brother, before witnesses; and, on the following day, they fought bravely on opposite sides. Alexander was authorised to raise a company of Highlanders for the king's service, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, two drummers or pipers, and one hundred men. He was severely wounded in the American War.

Having, in 1765, married Susanna, daughter of Donald Campbell of Airds by his wife Margaret MacLaine of Lochbuy, he left issue—

1. John, his heir and successor.
 2. Donald, who succeeded his brother.
 3. Margaret, who succeeded her brother Donald.
- Alexander was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. JOHN MACDONALD, to whom the estates were restored in 1786. He was a captain in the 21st Regiment, and was killed in 1794, leading the storming party at the taking of Guadalope. He died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother,

VII. DONALD MACDONALD, an officer of great distinction in the army. He was at Gibraltar when the Duke of Kent had command of the Royals, and when such an unpleasant feeling existed in the ranks, that it was feared among the other officers that the Duke's life was in danger. It was thought that Kinlochmoidart, from his personal authority and the high esteem in which he was held by the

men, would be the most likely officer to reduce them to subordination, and His Royal Highness with remarkable coolness, walked arm in arm with Macdonald in front of the lines. This incident established ever after a firm personal friendship between him and the Duke, and on Macdonald's death, His Royal Highness wrote to his mother expressing sympathy for the loss she had sustained.

He served in Egypt, with Sir Ralph Abercromby, and for his services he received the Crescent gold medal as Field Officer. He became Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royals, and, after serving with marked distinction at Toulouse, in Egypt, and the West Indies, he was appointed Governor of Tobago, and commandant of the military forces at that station. He died, unmarried, from the effect of wounds, received in the service of his country, in 1804, and was buried, with military honours, at the foot of the flag-staff at Fort King-George, when he was succeeded in the estate of Kinlochmoidart by his sister,

VIII. MARGARET MACDONALD, who, born at Airds, on the 16th of June, 1773, married on the 2nd of October, 1799, Lieutenant-Colonel Robertson, youngest son of Dr. William Robertson, a cadet of the Family of Strowan, Principal of the University of Edinburgh, and Historiographer Royal for Scotland. On his wife succeeding to the estate of Kinlochmoidart, her husband assumed the name of Macdonald in addition to his own. They had issue—

1. William Frederick, their heir, born in 1802, and now of Kinlochmoidart.

2. Alexander, who died in India, unmarried, in 1824.

3. James, a captain, 9th Madras Native Infantry, and Assistant Commissary-General, born 22nd of July, 1806, and married 30th of September, 1830, Anne Amelia, fourth daughter of Captain Stewart of Blackhall, without issue. He died on his way home from India in 1851.

4. David, who, born in 1810, died in infancy.

5. John, born on the 23rd of October, 1811. Lieutenant, Madras Native Infantry, killed in action, while gallantly leading his men to the attack of a stockade at Coorg, in 1834.

6. David, Vice-Admiral, R.N., who served in China, and afterwards, with great distinction in the New Zealand war, where he had command of H.M.S. *Hazara*, and was seriously wounded. He was publicly thanked, for his gallant conduct in New Zealand, by the House of Commons, receiving a medal and his promotion in consequence ; while a sword was presented to him by the colony of New Zealand, in recognition of his bravery. He was subsequently appointed to the Coast Guard, where he secured the Society's medal for saving life with conspicuous daring. He married in 1848, Caroline, daughter of James Beck of Priors Hardwick, with issue—David Robertson, born in 1857 ; and several daughters.

7. Susan.

8. Mary.

9. Margaret, who married Henry Wyght of Largnean.

10. Ellinor.

11. Jessie, who married, in 1841, the Rev. John Gibson Macvicar, D.D., LL.D., with issue.

Margaret died on the 14th of June, 1844, and her husband died in 1845, when he was succeeded in Kinlochmoidart by his eldest son,

IX. WILLIAM FREDERICK ROBERTSON-MACDONALD, now in possession, who married Sarah Adams, daughter of James Beck of Priors Hardwick, with issue—

1. William, born 26th of May, 1828, and died in June following.

2. William James, a twin of his brother William, a Captain in the 42nd and 30th Regiments. He married Helen Crawley, granddaughter of Governor Crawley, of Sydney, Nova Scotia, and died, without issue, in June, 1869.

3. William Francis, born in 1832 ; died in 1835.

4 William David Alexander, born 1834, and married Ada Julia, daughter of Thomas Littledale.

5. William C. Adams, born 1837 ; died 1841.

6. William Anstruther, born 1839, died, unmarried, in 1859.

THE MACDONALDS OF BOISDALE.

THIS family is descended from Donald Macdonald, of Benbecula, who became XIV. of Clanranald, and married, first, Margaret, daughter of Donald Macdonald, XI. of Clanranald, by whom he had Donald, his successor. He married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of George Mackenzie of Kildun, by whom he had (with a daughter Ann, who married John Mackinnon, second son of Lachlan Mackinnon of Mackinnon)—

I. ALEXANDER MACDONALD, "Alastair Mor," first of Boisdale, in South Uist, which lands he inherited as his portion in 1730. He is said to have been the first who introduced the manufacture of kelp from Ireland to the Long Island; and to increase the quantity of sea-ware for that purpose, he planted stones in the various bays on his property. Mr. Charles Shaw, ex-Sheriff-Substitute of Lochmaddy, says, that he remembers seeing this done in the Long Island 60 years ago, by people engaged in this industry, but "who did not seem to know that the same thing had formerly been done so long ago by the first Macdonald of Boisdale". Alexander first married Mary, daughter of Donald Macdonald, first of Castleton, and widow of Sir Donald Macdonald (A chogaidh), eleventh baron and fourth baronet of Sleat, who died in 1718. By her he had—

1. Colin, his heir.
2. John.
3. Mary, who married William Macdonald, second of Vallay, with issue.

4. Anne, who married Dr. Macleod of Eyre, Isle of Skye, a younger son of Raasay, who was severely wounded in the battle of Culloden, and afterwards, though still suffering from his wounds, chiefly instrumental in securing the escape of Prince Charles from the Isle of Skye, when his Royal Highness finally departed with Flora Macdonald.*

5. Another daughter.

He married, secondly, Margaret, second daughter of Hector Maclean XI. of Coll, with issue.

6. Donald, and 7, Hector, two distinguished officers in the army, killed in battle, during the American war.

He married, thirdly, Anne Macneil of Barra, by whom he had nine sons and three daughters, all of whom died young, except James of Askernish, who rose to the rank of Major in the Army, and married Miss Macleod of the family of Bernera; also a daughter, who married Macneil of Canna. Major James of Askernish died at Inverness.

Alexander was succeeded by his eldest son,

II. COLIN MACDONALD, second of Boisdale, who married, first, Margaret, daughter of Campbell of Airds, Ardnamurchan, by whom he had issue—

1. Alexander, his heir.

2. Donald, who served as an officer in the 22nd, 18th, and 100th Regiments in succession, until in 1795 he received letters of service to raise a regiment of the line, but he died suddenly before the regiment was completed. He rose to the rank of Colonel in the army.

* The Prince, at parting, handed Dr. Macleod a case containing a silver spoon, knife, and fork, saying, "Keep you that till I see you". There is a footnote to Boswell's account of the escape of the Prince in Croker's edition of Boswell's life of Dr. Johnson in these terms—"The case with the silver spoon, knife, and fork, given by the Chevalier to Dr. Macleod, came into the hands of Mary, Lady Clerk of Pennycuik, who intrusted me with the honourable commission of presenting them, in her ladyship's name, to his present Majesty upon his visit to Scotland, in 1822—*Walter Scott*." We are informed that this statement of Scott is quite erroneous, in so far as it relates to the case and its contents presented by Prince Charles to Dr. Macleod. These were at the time of the visit of George IV. to Scotland in 1822 in the house at Eyre, Isle of Skye, where Dr. Macleod left them at his death, and they were given in 1839, by his daughter Anne, the last surviving member of his family, to his great-grandson, Charles Shaw, W.S., late Sheriff-Substitute of the county of Inverness at Lochmaddy, in whose possession, at Maryfield, Inverness, they now are.

3. Hector, W.S., and one of the Principal Clerks of Session, who married Miss Buchanan of Drumikill and the Ross Priory, Dumbartonshire, heiress in her own right (whose name he assumed in addition to his own), with issue—four sons, Robert, Hector, John, and James, all of whom died unmarried; also four daughters, two of whom, Jane and Margaret, died unmarried. The second, Jemima, married in October, 1830, Sir Alexander Wellesley William Leith, Bart., of Burgh St. Peters, Norfolk, with issue, the present Sir George Hector Leith, Baronet; James, a Lieutenant in the 92nd Gordon Highlanders, born 1834; died at Gibraltar in 1857; John Macdonald, a Major, 79th Queen's Own Highlanders; born December 1835; and Flora, unmarried.

4. Margaret, who married Macdonald of Milton, nephew of the famous Flora Macdonald.

5. Harriett, or Henrietta, who married Major Alexander Macdonald, third of Vallay, with issue; and several others who died young.

Colin married, secondly, Isabella, daughter of Captain Robert Campbell of Glenfalloch, whose son John-Alexander-Gavin Campbell, by Jean Sinclair, daughter of Sir James Sinclair of Dunbeath, became 6th Earl of Breadalbane. By this lady he had—

6. Reginald, Advocate and Sheriff-Depute of the county of Stirling, who inherited the estates of Staffa and Ulva, in Mull. He married, in January, 1812, Elizabeth Steuart, only child and heiress of Sir Henry Steuart, Baronet of Allanton, who was created a Baronet with remainder to his son-in-law, Reginald, who became the second Baronet in 1836. His lady succeeded to the Touch Seton estates, in the county of Stirling, on the death of her maternal uncle, the Hon. Archibald Seton, late member of the Supreme Council of India, and Governor of Prince Edward Island, in 1835, when she assumed, in addition to her other names, that of Seton. She at the same time succeeded to the office of heritable armour bearer to the Queen, and Squire of the Royal body, which high hereditary office is held by

her son, the present baronet ; which has been from time immemorial in the family of Seton of Touch ; and for which various charters are extant at and previous to 1488, granted by James III. and Charles II. By his lady, Reginald had issue—(1) Sir Henry James Seton Steuart, Baronet of Allanton, who, in 1852, married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Robert Montgomery, younger son of Sir Robert Montgomery, Baronet of Stanhope, with issue ; (2) Archibald ; (3) Colin Reginald, drowned ; (4) Isabella, who married the Rev. John Lockhart Rose, Vicar of Ambury, Wiltshire ; (5) Lillias Margaret.

Sir Reginald died in 1838.

7. Robert, of Inchkenneth and Gribune, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Royal Artillery, and a C.B., who married, 18th January, 1801, Mary, third daughter of Thomas Douglas, of Grantham, with issue—(1) Robert Douglas, born 7th of June 1802, a Captain in the 42nd Highlanders, who married in 1834, Mary Anne Carleton, of Malta, with issue—Robert, born in 1835, a Captain in the 79th Regiment, married, but died without issue, in Natal, in 1872 ; Charles Edward, Colonel in the Royal Marines, born 15th of July, 1837, married 4th of November, 1869, Rebecca, widow of George Enbank, with issue—Charles Clanranald, born 25th of March, 1872 ; Kenneth Alexander, born 14th of August, 1874 ; and Flora Mary. Captain Robert had also two daughters, Isabella Mary ; and Mary Anne, who, in 1873, married Captain Capel Miers, 79th Cameron Highlanders. (2) George Ranald, born in 1804, a W.S., who married, first, Alicia, daughter of the Rev. B. Bridges, and secondly, Mary Anne, widow of W. Baines, Q.C., in both cases without issue ; he died in 1875. (3) Charles Kerr, born 1st Jan., 1806, a Major in the 42nd Highlanders, or Black Watch ; married in 1836, Lady Asworth, without issue. He died at Alexandria in 1868. (4) James Archibald, a Captain in the Royal Navy, born 18th of January, 1808 ; married, in 1837, Louisa Greig, a niece of Lady Rollo, with issue—Charles Douglas, a Lieutenant in the Royal Marines, who died at Guernsey in 1872, and two

daughters, Louisa and Mary. Captain James died in the same place in 1875. (5) Ranald George Meyritt, born 25th of February, 1810; married, in 1836, Alicia Jane, eldest daughter of the Rev. Nathaniel Bridges, Vicar of Henstridge, Somersetshire, with issue; (6) Isabella Louisa, married in 1838, James Neille Macneille, with issue—one son and two daughters.

8. Colin, who rose to the rank of Admiral in the Royal Navy, a C.B.; married, without issue.

9. James, a doctor of medicine, who died unmarried in 1806.

10. Isabella, died unmarried.

11. Jean, married in 1793, as his second wife, her second cousin, John Macdonald, XVII. of Clanranald, without issue.

A son William and two daughters, Mary or Maria and Flora, died young, the latter two while in school at Clifton.

Colin was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. ALEXANDER MACDONALD, third of Boisdale, a Captain in the 71st Regiment; he served in the American war, and married Marion, daughter of Alexander Maclean, fourteenth of Coll, with issue—

1. Hugh, his heir.

2. Colin, a doctor in the Indian army, where, a few years ago, he died unmarried.

3. Donald, who rose to the rank of Major, and was killed in battle.

4. Janet, unmarried.

5. Isabella, who married Colonel Cadell, of the family of Cockenzie.

6. Margaret, married Major Lawrence, with issue—two sons, Samuel, a Colonel in the Army, and Hector, killed in the Crimean war, an ensign.

He died in 1818, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

IV. HUGH MACDONALD, fourth of Boisdale. His rental in 1837 was £900, at which time he was "a non-resident proprietor". The property was soon afterwards sold by his trustees. He went to Liverpool, and married there, but we failed to trace any of his descendants.

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